

Aruba

TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Monday, September 24, 2012

Study: Voting rule changes may deter 10M Hispanics

WASHINGTON (AP) — The combined effects of voter roll purges, demands for proof of citizenship and photo identification requirements in several states may hinder at least 10 million Hispanic citizens who seek to vote this fall, civil rights advocates warn in a new report.

Hispanic voters are considered pivotal to the presidential election this November, and are being heavily courted by both Democratic incumbent Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney. If they turn out in large numbers, Hispanics could sway the outcome in several swing states.

In an analysis based on government data, The Advancement Project, a civil rights group, identified legal barriers that could deter voter registration and participation among eligible Hispanics. In some of those states, the group's researchers said, the number of voter-eligible Latino citizens potentially blocked by those barriers exceeds the margin of victory in the 2008 election.

"Like African Americans, Latinos have experienced decreased access and correspondingly lower levels of voter registration and



Nereida Velez, left, get her hair done by Brenda Espinoza at Brenda's Hairstyling, Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2012, in West Liberty, Iowa. Associated Press

participation than non-Hispanic whites," said the report, which was being released Monday.

The report called for repeal of policies that wrongfully inhibit Hispanic voters, and asked that the Justice Department investigate and prosecute "any related voting rights violations."

According to census data, there were more than 21 million Hispanics of voting age in 2010. They comprised roughly 10 percent of all eligible voters and 8 percent of registered voters in the U.S.

Continued on Page 4

"TURMOIL AND TRANSITION"



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton meets with Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak in New York during the 67th United Nations General Assembly, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012. Associated Press See Page 2



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Frustration and turmoil as world leaders meet

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP)

— Democratic uprisings across the Arab world and the Palestinians' bid for U.N. membership sparked

excitement and hope at last year's meeting of world leaders. But with war raging in Syria, the Palestinian application sidelined, and deadly protests generated by an anti-Islamic video,

the mood as this year's U.N. gathering begins is one of disappointment and frustration.

More than 120 presidents, prime ministers and monarchs meeting this week

under heavy security at the U.N. General Assembly and in sideline events will also be preoccupied by rising tension over Iran's nuclear program and the possibility of an Israeli strike against Tehran's nuclear facilities, al-Qaida's inroads in the Sahel region of west Africa,

Lakhdar Brahimi briefs the U.N. Security Council behind closed doors on his recent talks with Syrian President Bashar Assad and other leaders in the region. "To increase pressure and to increase the isolation of the regime of Assad is one

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United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, right, meets with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, left, at United Nations Headquarters for the 67th session of the General Assembly, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012.

Associated Press

especially in Mali, and the first decline in years in international aid to help developing countries combat poverty.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon predicted that the ministerial session, which starts Tuesday, will be among the busiest ever, reflecting "the tumultuous time in which we live — a time of turmoil and transition." It is also taking place "against a backdrop of widespread violence linked to intolerance," he said. Ahead of the opening ministerial session, which President Barack Obama will address, the U.N. chief has invited leaders to the first high-level meeting on the rule of law on Monday, hoping they "will send a strong signal to the world's people that they are serious about establishing well-functioning institutions and delivering justice." Diplomats aren't expecting any breakthroughs on the deadlock over Syria, which Ban said "will be foremost in our minds," despite a number of sideline meetings starting Monday when the new U.N.-Arab League envoy

of the goals of this week," Germany's Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle told reporters Sunday.

The Syrian conflict has bitterly divided the most powerful members of the Security Council, paralyzing the only U.N. body that can impose global sanctions and authorize military action. Russia, Syria's key protector, and China, have vetoed three Western-backed resolutions aimed at pressuring Assad to stop the violence and start political talks with opponents of his family's 40-year dictatorship who began demonstrating against his regime 18 months ago.

Germany's U.N. Ambassador Peter Wittig, the current Security Council president, said "change in the Arab world" will be uppermost in the minds of the leaders — as was the case at last year's session.

Egypt's President Mohamed Morsi, an Islamist who was sworn in on June 30 after the first democratic elections in the country's modern history, will be addressing the 193-member assembly for the first time on Wednesday. □

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Obama argues against Romney's 'top-down economics'

STEVEN R. HURST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican challenger Mitt Romney, slipping in the polls in critical battleground states, opens an intense campaign focus in three of them Sunday with a rally in Colorado, before heading to Ohio for a three-day bus tour and ending with a stop in Virginia.

President Barack Obama, who was not campaigning Sunday, won all three of those states in the 2008 election that swept him into the White House.

With about six weeks remaining before the Nov. 6 election, the handful of so-called swing or battleground states appear likely to determine the outcome of what has been an extremely close contest between Obama and Romney. Those states become even more critical to the Republican candidate as recent polling shows Obama opening a lead in many of them.

The U.S. president is not chosen by the nationwide popular vote but in state-by-state contests. While most states reliably vote for the candidate of one party or the other, swing states like Colorado, Ohio, Virginia and five others are seen as toss-ups.

Obama enters the week-end with polls showing him in a near tie with Romney nationally. But a new Wall Street Journal/NBC News/Marist Poll shows the president with leads among likely voters of 8 percentage points in Iowa and 5 points each in Colorado and Wisconsin, all battleground states. Polls published earlier this week pointed to leads for Obama in Virginia and Ohio. While he and Romney are neck-and-neck in

North Carolina, Obama has an edge in Florida and New Hampshire.

With those factors pressing hard on Romney, he is intensifying his swing-state campaigning to counter criticism from Republican heavyweights that his bid for the nation's highest office is mismanaged and misdirected.

"The Romney campaign has to get turned around. This week I called it incompetent, but only because I was being polite. I really meant 'rolling calamity,'" Wall Street Journal columnist Peggy Noonan, a former speechwriter for President Ronald Reagan, wrote late last week.

Romney's evening rally at a Denver-area high school represents his first public event of the weekend. As the November vote draws near, he also is facing pressure to spend less time raising money and more time explaining his plans to voters in swing states.

The schedule shift comes in the last full week before the presidential debates move the campaign into a new phase — one which Romney advisers suggest could prove pivotal following several weeks marked by negative attention, missteps and Republican concerns. Already facing reports of internal finger-pointing and foreign policy questions, Romney suffered another setback last week when a secretly recorded video at a Florida fundraiser for rich donors surfaced showing the Republican standard bearer declaring that almost half of Americans are dependent upon government and see themselves as victims.

Romney's allies worked to reframe the video as an opportunity to draw a con-



President Barack Obama waves to the crowd as he arrives at a campaign event at the Summerfest Grounds at Henry Maier Festival Park, Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012, in Milwaukee.
Associated Press

trast between the level of government dependency that Romney and Obama envision.

"I think we had a good week last week," Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus said Sunday on ABC TV's "This Week." "We were able to frame up the debate last week in the sense of what future do we want and do you want out there for your kids and grandkids?"

On Friday, Romney released his 2011 tax returns showing income of \$13.7 million, largely from investment income. He paid federal income tax at a 14.1 percent rate, lower than that of most middle-income Americans. That feeds on

the Obama message that Romney is among America's super-wealthy and out of touch with the concerns of average voters.

In an interview set to air Sunday night, Romney told CBS television his campaign is moving in the right direction.

"It doesn't need a turnaround. We've got a campaign which is tied with an incumbent president to the United States," Romney says, according to remarks released in advance by CBS.

Romney spent much of his weekend in high-dollar fundraisers in southern California, a state that has gone Democratic in the last five presidential elections.

As the Republican courted wealthy donors at the Beverly Hills Hilton on Saturday, Obama worked to squash Republican hopes for a resurgence in Wisconsin, where the president assailed Romney's economic approach before an energized gathering of 18,000 in Milwaukee, Obama's biggest crowd of the campaign.

Obama faulted Romney for advancing a top-down economic approach that "never works."

"The country doesn't succeed when only the folks at the very top are doing well," Obama told the massive crowd. "We succeed when the middle class is doing well."

Hispanics

Continued from front

Among eligible Hispanics in 2010, 6.3 million said they were not registered to vote, and 10.8 million — about half of those of voting age — said they did not vote, the report said.

By comparison, the report said, there were 172.4 million non-Hispanic white citizens eligible to vote in 2010, with nearly 18 percent unregistered and 38 percent who said they did not vote. There are three significant barriers to Hispanic voter participation, researchers said: citizenship-based voter purges, proof of citizenship requirements and photo identification laws.

Sixteen states have either adopted or are pursuing citizenship-related purges of their voter rolls, the report said. Those states are Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas,



Jose Zacarias speaks about the growing political influence of the Latino community in the state during an interview outside his home, Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2012, in West Liberty, Iowa.

Utah and Washington. Those states are home to nearly 5.5 million registered Latino voters, and 1.1 million naturalized citizens from Latin America. Colorado and Florida identified voters for possible purging by comparing their voter registrations with driver's

license databases that show which voters indicated they were immigrants — thereby creating a problem, the report said.

"Naturalized citizens typically received their driver's licenses when they were legal immigrants but before becoming naturalized

citizens (and before registering to vote); therefore, this method generates lists of voters to be checked that targets naturalized citizens," the report said.

Florida stopped its effort to remove noncitizens from its voter rolls once officials realized that they were using

an outdated database to check citizenship.

As of last month, laws requiring additional citizenship documents — a certified birth certificate, passport or naturalization papers — in order to register to vote were in effect in Georgia, might take effect in Alabama and Arizona later this year, and had been proposed in several states, the report said.

Such a demand was "previously unheard of" in the U.S., the report said, mainly because federal protections against noncitizens registering to vote already were in place. Asking for extra paperwork effectively puts "onerous and sometimes expensive" requirements on Latino voters at a disproportionate rate over others, researchers said.

The same is true for "restrictive" photo identification laws in nine states: Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin, the report said. □

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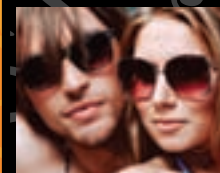
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AP Exclusive:

Philadelphia man Nazi probe target

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Associated Press
BERLIN (AP) — Germany has launched a war crimes investigation against an 87-year-old Philadelphia man it accuses of serving as an SS guard at the Auschwitz death camp, The Associated Press has learned, following years of failed U.S. Justice Department efforts to have the man stripped of his American citizenship and deported.

Johann "Hans" Breyer, a retired toolmaker, admits he was a guard at Auschwitz during World War II, but told the AP he was stationed outside the facility and had nothing to do with the wholesale slaughter of some 1.5 million Jews and others behind the gates. The special German office that investigates Nazi war crimes has recommended that prosecutors charge him with accessory to murder and extradite him to Germany for trial on suspicion of involvement in the killing of at least 344,000 Jews at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp in occupied Poland.

The AP also has obtained documents that raise doubts about Breyer's testimony about the timing of his departure from Auschwitz. The case is being pursued on the same legal theory used to prosecute late Ohio autoworker John Demjanjuk, who died in March while appealing his conviction in Germany on charges he served as a guard at the notorious Sobibor death camp, also in occupied Poland.

The conviction was not considered legally binding because Demjanjuk died before his appeals were exhausted. But prosecutors maintain they can still use the same legal argument to pursue Breyer. Under that line of thinking — even without proof of participation in any specific crime — a person who served as a death camp guard can be charged with access-

ry to murder because the camp's sole function was to kill people.

Experts estimate that at least 80 former camp guards or others who would fall into the same category are likely still alive today, almost 70 years after the end of the war.

Authorities in the Bavarian town of Weiden, who have jurisdiction, are currently trying to determine if the evidence is sufficient for prosecution. A German official working on the case confirmed that Breyer was the target of the probe; he spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information.

Breyer acknowledged in an interview in his modest row house in northeastern Philadelphia that he was in the Waffen SS at Auschwitz but that he never served at the part of the camp responsible for the extermination of Jews.

"I didn't kill anybody, I didn't rape anybody — and I don't even have a traffic ticket here," he told the AP. "I didn't do anything wrong."

He said he was aware of what was going on inside the death camp, but did not witness it himself. "We could only see the outside, the gates," he said.

Breyer said he had recently suffered three "mini-strokes." But he was cogent and clear as he talked about his past for more than an hour, sitting in his living room.

For more than a decade, the Justice Department waged court battles to try to have Breyer deported. They largely revolved around whether Breyer had lied about his Nazi past in applying for immigration or whether he could have citizenship through his American-born mother. That legal saga ended in 2003, with a ruling that allowed him to stay in the United States, mainly on the grounds that he had joined the SS as a minor and could therefore not be



This January 1941 file photo shows entry to the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland, with snow-covered railtracks leading to the camp.

Associated Press

held legally responsible for participation in it.

Breyer testified in U.S. court that he served as a perimeter guard at Auschwitz I, which was largely for prisoners used as slave labor-

ers, though it also had a makeshift gas chamber used early in the war; it was also the camp where SS doctor Josef Mengele carried out sadistic experiments on inmates. □

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In this Jan. 22, 1983 file photo, ex-CIA agent Edwin Wilson, center, leaves federal court after a day of jury selection accompanied by U.S. Marshals in Houston. Edwin P. Wilson, a former CIA operative who was branded a traitor and convicted of shipping arms to Libya but whose conviction was later overturned after he served 22 years in prison, has died, Sept. 10, 2012. He was 84.

Former CIA operative Edwin Wilson dies at 84

SEATTLE (AP) — Edwin Wilson set up front companies abroad for the CIA, made millions in the arms trade and entertained generals and congressmen at his sprawling Virginia farm. His high-powered, jet-setting life in the 1970s and early 1980s followed a career in the CIA. But it came crashing down when he was branded a traitor and convicted in 1983 for shipping 20 tons of C-4 plastic explosives to Libya. After two decades in pris-

on, Wilson finally got the conviction overturned, convincing a judge that he had continued to work informally for the agency. The man who once posed as a rich American businessman abroad spent his final years living with his brother near Seattle. Wilson died Sept. 10 from complications from a heart valve replacement surgery, said Craig Emmick, a director at Columbia Funeral Home in Seattle. He was 84. "Our family always supported him and believed in him," his nephew, Scott Wilson, said Saturday, adding that the biggest part of his uncle's vindication was "that the label of being a traitor would be taken off." "He never considered himself a traitor, of course," Wilson added. Wilson was born May 3, 1928, to a farming family in Nampa, Idaho. He worked as a merchant seaman, and earned a psychology degree from the University of Portland in 1953. He joined the Marines and fought in the last days of the Korean War, according to his death notice. He went to work for the Central Intelligence Agency in 1955 after being discharged from the Marines. Wilson entered the arms trade after leaving the CIA in 1971, according to a 2004 Washington Post article. "I had a couple of villas that were very, very nice," he told the newspaper at the time. "I had Pakistani houseboys and I had Libyans working for me, typing

up proposals in Arabic." In 1982, he was lured out of hiding in Libya and brought to New York for arrest. A federal court in Virginia convicted him of exporting firearms to Libya without permission and sentenced him to 10 years. He was convicted in Texas in 1983, receiving a 17-year sentence for similar crimes. A New York court also sentenced him to 25 years, to run consecutively with the Texas and Virginia sentences, for attempted murder, criminal solicitation and other charges involving claims that Wilson conspired behind bars to have witnesses and prosecutors killed. At trial, Wilson said he made the sales to ingratiate himself with the Libyan government at the CIA's request. While in prison, Wilson sought to prove his innocence by using the Freedom of Information Act to request government documents. A federal judge threw out the conviction in 2003, saying the government had failed to correct information about Wilson's service to the CIA that it admitted internally was false. Wilson was released in 2004. He filed a civil lawsuit against seven former federal prosecutors and a former executive director of the CIA, but a judge in Houston dismissed the case in 2007, according to Seattlepi.com. "He wanted to try to hold the people accountable that helped put him into prison," his nephew said. "But he was never bitter." □

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China nixes events to mark 40 years of Japan ties

TOKYO (AP) — China has canceled events to commemorate 40 years of diplomatic relations with Japan, further signaling its anger over a simmering territorial dispute.

Japanese Foreign Ministry official Hiroaki Sakamoto confirmed that China has canceled the events, planned for Thursday. He did not provide further details.

China's Xinhua News Agency, citing officials with the China-Japan Friendship Association and another government-affiliated group, reported Sunday that the events would not take place as planned. It said they would be held "at a proper time."

Calls to China's Foreign Ministry were not answered Sunday. In its evening broadcast, China Central Television said the timing of the events was being "adjusted."

Relations have sunk to their worst level in years as the two sides spar over islands in the East China Sea claimed by both countries and by Taiwan.

In the latest large anti-Japan protest in China, up to 3,000 people demonstrated Sunday in the southern city of Guangzhou, Xinhua reported.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said in a statement late Saturday that Japanese personnel had landed on the islands to stop Taiwanese activists from doing so, and China had protested strongly to Japan over the "severe infringement upon China's territorial sovereignty."

A group of Taiwanese fishermen have said they will sail 60 boats to the islands on Monday to protect their fishing grounds.

Hundreds of people marched in Taiwan's capital, Taipei, on Sunday to

protest against Japan for occupying the islands. □

Taiwanese protesters shout slogans to denounce Japan's control of the disputed islands in East China Sea during a march in Taipei, Taiwan, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012.

Associated Press




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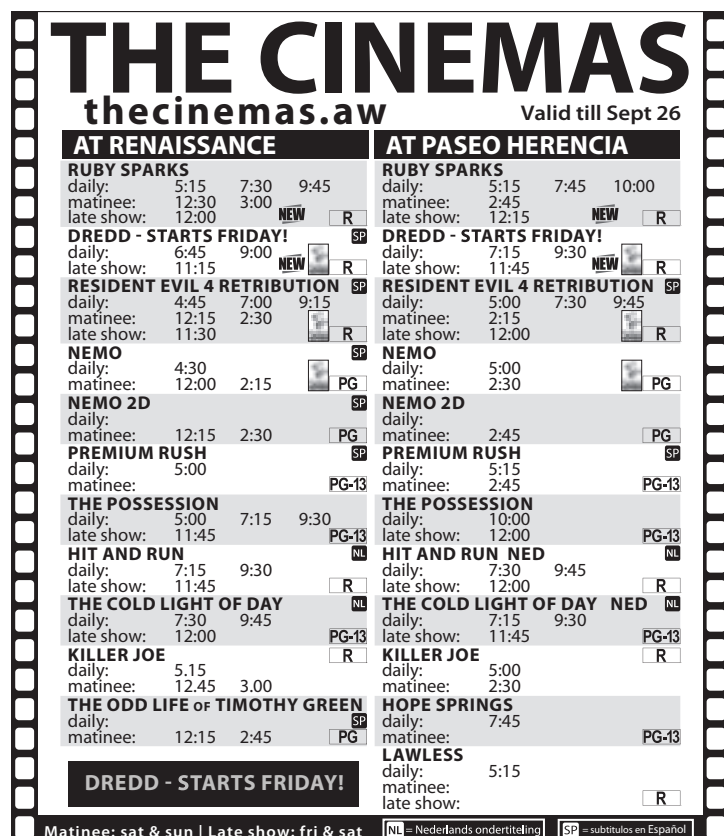
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Avalanche on Nepal peak kills at least 9 climbers

BINAJ GURUBACHARYA

Associated Press

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) —

An avalanche hit about two dozen climbers in a camp high on a Himalayan peak at the start of Nepal's autumn climbing season, killing nine and leaving six missing. Many of the climbers were French or German.

Ten climbers survived but many were injured and were flown to hospitals by rescue helicopters, police official Basanta Bahadur Kuwar said. The avalanche struck Sunday morning on the high slopes of Mount Manaslu in northern Nepal, and deteriorating weather halted air searches of the mountain by afternoon.

The peak is the eighth highest in the world. Nepal's autumn mountaineering season comes right after the end of the monsoon rains, which make weather conditions unpredictable, and is less popular than spring, when hundreds of climbers crowd the high Himalayan peaks.

The avalanche hit a camp at 7,000 meters (22,960 feet) early in the morning as the climbers were preparing to head toward the summit,



In this photo provided by Nepalese airline Simrik Air, an injured victim, center, of an avalanche is rescued at the base camp of Mount Manaslu in northern Nepal, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012. Associated Press

which is 8,156 meters (26,760 feet) high. The cause of Sunday's avalanche was not immediately determined.

There were Italian, German and French teams on the mountain, with a total of 231 climbers and guides, but not all were at the higher camps, officials said.

Kuwar said the bodies of a Nepalese guide and a German man were recovered and rescue pilots

spotted seven other bodies on the slopes. Spain's Foreign Ministry said from Madrid that one climber killed was Spanish. The identities of the others were still being confirmed.

Rescue pilot Pasang, who uses only one name, said three injured French citizens and two Germans had been transported to hospitals in Katmandu. He said rescuers were also attempting to bring the bodies of the dead back to the

base camp.

Nepal has eight of the 14 highest peaks in the world. Climbers have complained in recent years that climbing conditions have deteriorated and risks of accidents have increased.

Veteran mountain guide Apa, who has climbed Mount Everest a record 21 times, traveled for months across Nepal earlier this year campaigning about the effects of global

warming on the mountain peaks.

He told The Associated Press the mountains now have considerably less ice and snow, making it harder for climbers to use ice axes and crampons on their boots to get a grip on the slopes.

Loose snow also increases the risk of avalanches.

Bill Amos, of Portland, Oregon, an avid mountaineer and ice climber who founded the mountaineering apparel company NW Alpine, said "it's super sad when our fellow climbers die." Amos said his initial thought when he heard about the deadly avalanche in Nepal was that the mountain was being overcrowded with climbers.

"That seems to be the same thing that's going on in Everest," he said. "All of that is overcrowding and these commercial expeditions trying to make money."

Amos added that people who venture into the mountains need to understand the risks and dangers associated with backcountry travel and be able to spot avalanche terrain and dangerous snowpack. □

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Ex-top cop in China scandal jailed for 15



This Sept. 18, 2012 video image taken from CCTV shows Wang Lijun speaking during his trial at the Chengdu Intermediate People's Court in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province.

Associated Press

GILLIAN WONG
Associated Press

CHENGDU, China (AP) — The Chinese police chief whose thwarted defection exposed murder and infighting in high places was sentenced to 15 years in prison Monday, setting the stage for China's leadership to close out the divisive scandal and move ahead with a generational handover of power. Amid heavy security, the Intermediate People's Court in the central city of Chengdu sentenced Wang Lijun after convicting him of defecting, abuse of power, taking bribes and other crimes to which he confessed at his trial last week. Wang told the court he will not appeal, said his lawyer. The sentence is lighter than the 20-year prison term suggested in sentencing guidelines. The court noted Wang's cooperation in exposing the crimes of others, especially the central element in the scandal — the murder of a British businessman by the wife of Wang's

former boss, once political high-flier Bo Xilai. The scandal has been the messiest, most public one Communist Party leaders have had to confront in decades, triggering bruising internal jostling as the leadership prepares to transfer power to a younger generation. In the scandal's wake, Bo was removed from the leadership, his wife confessed to the murder and relations among the leaders were strained. As a result, arrangements for a party congress to install the new leadership this fall grew complicated. After Wang's sentencing, the leadership is expected to announce long-overdue dates for the congress and dispose of the scandal's stickiest issue — whether merely to expel Bo from the party or hand him over for criminal prosecution. Pronouncing judgment on Bo will allow the new leaders to take charge without the scan-

dal's overhang. Wang's verdict likely portends harsher treatment for Bo. His 15-year term contrasts with the effective life sentence given to Bo's wife, Gu Kailai, for

the murder of Briton Neil Heywood, a family associate, over what authorities have said was a business dispute. Only two of the 15 years were for attempting to defect to the U.S., a

gambit in which Wang exposed Heywood's murder first to American diplomats and then to Chinese authorities, handing over evidence used to convict Gu last month. □



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Prophet film protesters clash with Greek police

DEMETRIS NELLAS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP)

— Greek riot police used tear gas and pepper spray to disperse Muslim protesters who clashed with officers Sunday during a rally against a film produced in the U.S. that denigrates Islam's Prophet Muhammad. No injuries were reported.

A general strike in Bangladesh shut down schools, transportation and businesses, while a few hundred people peacefully marched in Pakistan. Iranian students burned flags in Tehran to protest the recent publication of lewd caricatures of Muhammad by a French satirical weekly.

In Athens, six people were detained during the demonstration at a central square, police said. About 600 people attended the rally, which featured

heated speeches, but was mostly peaceful.

The crowd then wanted to march to the U.S. Embassy, which is about three kilometers (two miles) away from Omonia Square. Some tried to break through police lines several times, but riot officers pushed them back. The violence occurred at the end of the rally, when small groups of protesters threw objects at police. Three cars were damaged and three storefronts smashed.

Banners were displayed in English, denouncing the film and called on the U.S. to hang the filmmaker. One told President Barack Obama "we are all with Osama," referring to Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader who was killed in a U.S. raid in Pakistan in May 2011. The amateurish film, which portrays the

prophet as a fraud, a womanizer and a child molester, has sparked violent protests throughout the Muslim world for nearly two weeks. The violence linked to protests over the film has resulted in the deaths of at least 49 people, including the U.S. ambassador to Libya.

About 300 Iranian students protested against the caricatures that appeared in the French weekly. They rallied in front of the French Embassy in Tehran, burning French, U.S. and Israeli flags and chanting "death to France" and "down with the U.S." They called for the expulsion of French ambassador to Iran.

In an interview to be aired Monday on CNN's "Piers Morgan Tonight," Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was asked about the protests in the Muslim world.



A man tries to kick a tear-gas canister away, as Muslims protest against a film produced in the U.S. that they say insults the Prophet Muhammad, in Athens, Sun. 23, 2012.
Associated Press

"Offending the Holy Prophet is quite ugly," Ahmadinejad said. "This has very little or nothing to do with freedom and freedom of speech. This is the weakness of and the abuse of freedom, and in many places it is a crime."

"But we also believe that this must also be resolved in a humane atmosphere,

in a participatory environment and we do not like anyone losing their lives or being killed for any reason anywhere in the world."

In Bangladesh, schools and businesses were closed and transportation was disrupted across the south Asian country as hardline Islamic groups protesting the film enforced a general strike.

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Suicide bomber kills 2, injures 45 in Nigeria



The remains of a car used in a suicide bombing outside a church in Bauchi, Nigeria. Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012. A suicide car bomber attacked a Catholic church in northern Nigeria on Sunday, killing two people and wounding another 45, officials said.

Associated Press

SHEHU SAULAWA,
Associated Press

BAUCHI, Nigeria (AP) — A suicide car bomber attacked a Catholic church conducting Mass in northern Nigeria on Sunday, killing two people and wounding another 45 in a region under assault by a radical Islamist sect, officials said. An Associated Press journalist heard the explosion after 9 a.m. Sunday in the city of Bauchi, which has seen a number of bombings and shootings blamed on the sect known as Boko Haram. The blast appeared to hit a parking lot alongside the St. John's Catholic Church in the city. Police and military surrounded the church and did not allow journalists inside the cordon. Later at a nearby hospital, Bauchi deputy police commissioner T. Stevens told journalists told that the bomber had been stopped at the

church's gate, where he detonated the explosives packed inside his car. Doctors cautioned more could die from their injuries. "The situation has been brought under control," Stevens said. "We have our men minding all areas." Stevens said no group or individual had claimed responsibility for the attack, though suspicion immediately fell on Boko Haram. The sect, whose name means "Western education is sacrilege" in the Hausa language of Nigeria's north, has been waging an increasingly bloody fight against nation's weak central government. More than 680 people have died in drive-by killings and bombings blamed on Boko Haram this year alone, according to an AP count. The sect has demanded the release of all its captive members and has called for strict Shariah law to be

implemented across the entire country. The sect has used suicide car bombs against churches in the past, most noticeably a 2011 Christmas Day attack on a Catholic church in Madalla near Nigeria's capital. That attack and assaults elsewhere in the country killed at least 44 people. An unclaimed car bombing on Easter in Kaduna killed at least 38 people on a busy roadway after witnesses say it was turned away from a church. Attacks against churches by the sect have waned in recent weeks. Nigeria's military claimed it killed the sect's spokesman and a commander Sept. 17 outside the city of Kano, potentially shaking up a sect that has continued attacks despite a tighter military presence in northern cities. The killing of members of the sect's senior leadership

comes as the group recently changed some of its tactics and attacked more than 30 mobile phone tow-

ers throughout northern Nigeria, disrupting communications in a nation reliant on cellular phones. □



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Argentines enjoy nearly the most paid holidays

DEBORA REY

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Oh, how lovely it is this weekend to be Argentine — able to take a mini-vacation to the mountains or the sea, or simply relax at home for three days, blissfully enjoying yet another new government benefit: More paid national holidays this year than nearly every other country in the world.

Thousands of Argentines began spilling out of the capital Friday night to make the most of the long weekend, which congress approved just three weeks ago. Monday's Sept. 24th holiday makes for a total of 19 national paid holidays this year. Only Colombia comes close in Latin America, with 18.

Many other countries don't extend such benefits to all workers nationwide, according to a 62-nation survey published last year by Mercer Human Resources Consulting. For example, Lebanon has 21 bank holidays, celebrating two Easters and two Good Fridays honoring different religions, but only government and financial sector workers can count on getting paid for the days off.

In contrast, Argentina legally requires all private employers to provide time off or extra pay during all national holidays.

The United States has just 10 national holidays, but for many workers even these aren't a sure thing. The U.S. stands alone among industrial nations in providing no legal guarantees of time off or holiday pay — not even for Christmas or the Fourth of July, said John de Graaf,



Girls pose for a picture in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, Friday, Sept. 21, 2012.
Associated Press

who runs Take Back Your Time, a group promoting worker protections in the U.S. and Canada.

"It's not good. The thinking is so short-term. It might help the bottom line and shareholder prices in the short run, but in the long run we pay for this stuff," de Graaf said. He said studies show short holiday breaks refresh workers and make them more productive, while lack of time off can increase stress and health problems. Cecilia Guidi, a Buenos Aires office worker, had no idea what Argentina's latest holiday is for, but she's enjoying it as much as she can. She drove off with her husband and two small children to spend three nights in a hotel in the beach resort of Mar del Plata, about 250 miles south of the capital. "I don't know if so many holidays is good or bad for the country, but it's a good thing for me. I'm spending more time with my family, and getting more rest," she said.

Argentina's newest holiday, granted for this bicentennial year only, honors the

day weekend.

Fernandez has made a point of creating new holidays and moving others so Argentines can take enough time off work to drive or fly long distances to the country's tourist destinations. Honoring patriotic heroes, dictatorship victims and soldiers who died fighting against Britain for the Falkland Islands, she made such a policy of it that September had been the only month this bicentennial year without a holiday — until congress' recent vote



Vacationing Argentines pose for a picture on a mountain in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, Friday, Sept. 21, 2012.

Associated Press

day in 1812 when revolutionary war hero Manuel Belgrano led his troops to victory against Spanish royalist forces in the Battle of Tucuman.

More importantly for President Cristina Fernandez, it gives her citizens yet another opportunity to leave their homes and spread their pesos around, underpinning the consumer spending that has kept Argentina afloat in rough economic waters. Guidi's family alone will spend more than \$600 on a hotel room, restaurant meals, gas and other expenses they wouldn't have run up without the three-

added it in, too.

Some labor experts say requiring employers to pay for so many holidays harms profits, endangering the economy.

"Faced with such an increase in holidays, businesses run the risk of losing productivity and efficiency in daily work. In many cases, holidays interrupt planned activities and make coordination difficult," said Pablo Molouny, who runs the Trabajando.com consulting firm in Buenos Aires.

Tourism businesses, however, credit the holidays with turning around local

economies across Argentina. More than 9.5 million people traveled during the year's first seven long weekends, spending \$1.6 billion and increasing the GDP by 7 percentage points, according to the Tourism Ministry, which estimates that 1.2 million of the country's 40 million people directly owe their jobs to tourism.

"Tourism is a key socio-economic measure for the country," said Oscar Ghezzi, president of the Argentina Tourism Chamber. "It's an important generator of excellent jobs, and also profits. It's an activity that spills over and mobilizes all the economies, from big cities to small towns."

But does all this time off slow down the overall economy? Could Argentina's abundance of holiday joy push businesses to invest in other countries instead?

Not necessarily, because another key factor is how many vacation days governments require employers to provide. Argentina trails many other nations by insisting on just 14 days for beginning employees. Together with the 19 holidays, it means Argentine employers have to provide at least 33 days off a year, the same as Colombia, which requires a minimum of 15 days' vacation.

France, Austria, Greece and most Nordic countries require 25 days paid vacation, which together with national holidays makes for a world-leading 38 days off in Austria, the Mercer survey found. Venezuela leads Latin America with a total of 36 paid days off, while Morocco and Malaysia lead Africa and Asia with 32.



Group of loyal Aruba visitors honored by ATA at the Marriott Surf Club



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of very loyal and friendly visitors at the Marriott Surf Club, as Distinguished Visitors. The honorees were Michael and Carol Ventarola, Kenneth and Kelly Sisk, and Dr. Nalin and Cynthia Sudan. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. All the honorees are loyal members of the Marriott Surf Club and they have one thing in common, they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the beaches, the beautiful weather, shopping, family atmosphere and the relaxation. The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, together with John van der Linden, representing the Marriott Surf Club.



Fresh, Fast & Friendly

The General Café reveals a new stylish look

Oranjestad – The General Café has found a cozy and inviting home within the General Store in Camacuri, and over the past few years has developed a steady and loyal following. People from all walks of life and professions drop in frequently to enjoy the café's culinary expertise. Within the next few days the café will be inaugurating its refreshed location, a full service buffet restaurant, built as an extension to the General Store on the right hand side of the building. Lunch goers will be pleased with the stylish and contemporary interior design of the food counters, the check out area, the spacious dining room, the comfortable rest rooms and of course the available parking around the store. The refreshed café will open to the public in the



first week of October with a fun contest. Patrons coming for lunch will be asked to photograph their entrees and send them to the restaurant manager by e-mail. Those who enter a photograph will be eligible to participate in a raffle for a full month-worth of free

lunches, with a cash value of over Awg 400. The success of the General Café is due largely to its exciting selection of different dishes every day, offering a hearty home-made soup, and four international or local entrees. In addition to serving a dif-

ferent menu every day of the week, six days a week, Sunday features a famous BBQ with chicken, steak and ribs or a special main course. Those on the run can grab a wrap filled with Asian Chicken, Turkey & Cheese, Roast beef, or Bacon, Let-

tuce and Tomato. The plentiful salads are always tempting and crunchy, Chicken & Bacon, Chicken Caesar and Chef Salad. The General Café shares its creative cooks with Callo-way Corporation, the most modern food plant on the island supplying all the airlines landing here with top-notch catering, also feeding all hungry clients at the Savaneta General Café, behind the General Store. The Fresh, Fast and Friendly, General Café is open for take-out, or leisurely lunch enjoyed in the new dining room, Monday - Saturday 8:00am – 4:00pm, Sundays 9:00am – 1:00pm, Phone: +297 734-1000, Located inside General Store, Camacuri. A lunch delivery service is in the works and will be offered in the very near future.

Caribbean Palm Village Resort Hosts Housekeeping Week and Family day



Noord – On the occasion of Housekeeping Week, Caribbean Palm Village Resort hosted a Family Day, designed to bring employees and their family members together for some fun in the sun. The entire week was designed to entertain, inspire and motivate the hard-working members

of the housekeeping department starting off with a lecture by Giovanni Lew Jen Tai discussing Service Dynamics. Then on Tuesday the department played Bingo and on Wednesday an interesting lecture followed titled: Creating Your Balance in Life. Nutrition with

Mary-Lou de Windt and a Health Check-Up with Wit Gele Kruis, the White & Yellow Cross, concluded a most-enjoyable program which also included Carlos Albertus of B & P Interface, who conducted a Customer Service and Safety & Security seminar. Pictured here snapshot from an information-filled week.

The Carubbian Festival Aruba's Carnival experience every week of the year!

Most visitors don't have the opportunity to experience Aruba's cultural highlight of the year—Carnival (or, as we call it here, Carnaval). But now you can discover the colorful spirit of Aruba's Carnival every Thursday evening at the Carubbian Festival. Situated on the island's southern tip in the heart of San Nicolas where Caribbean and Aruban cultures meet, the Carubbian Festival brings Carnival to life with live Calypso and Soca music, a parade of glittery dancers showcasing many of our past Carnival's gorgeous costumes, festive brass bands, stilt walkers, handicrafts, and traditional homemade cuisine of the Caribbean region.

We encourage you to spend an evening with the locals, and enjoy a taste of our culture at the Carubbian Festival. It's also a great family or group activity!

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Aruban Hiram Rodriguez becomes first EU MMA champion





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Aruban fighter Hiram Rodriguez successfully captured the first-ever European MMA lightweight title with his unanimous decision victory over the Danish fighter Kenneth Rosfort-Nees, Saturday September 15th, 2012. The Holland-based fighter had met his adversary once before, losing in his opponent's hometown of Copenhagen in a highly controversial decision. In the rematch, Rodriguez left no doubt as to who was

the better fighter, winning a clear-cut victory on all 3 judges' scorecards, eliminating the disappointment of the previous decision. The entire fight was high-paced, in which Rodriguez connected repeatedly with quick combinations and several crucially-timed takedowns. His opponent Rosfort-Nees seemed, especially in the beginning of the rounds, to dominate with his ability and size to control Rodriguez against

the cage, but once the Dutch fighter fought himself out of the clinches he repeatedly impressed in the final minutes of each round. With his victory, the new European MMA lightweight champion established himself as formidable opponent in the MMA community, and has clearly showed, he is an upcoming fighter ready for a bigger stage. It will be interesting to see how the future plays out for this new champion. □



NFL Capsules



Tennessee Titans special teams player Tommie Campbell runs a punt back 65 yards for a touchdown after taking a pass from kick-returner Darius Reynaud against the Detroit Lions in the first quarter of an NFL football game on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

Titans get first win

Associated Press
NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — Rob Bironas kicked a 26-yard field goal in overtime, and the Titans stopped backup quarterback Shaun Hill on fourth-and-1 at the Tennessee 7 to pull out a 44-41 win over the Detroit Lions on Sunday. The Titans (1-2) blew a 20-9 halftime lead in a crazy game featuring big plays, scoring swings and some suspect officiating.

Continued on Page 19

LUCKY BRANDT



Snedeker completes Tour Championship, playoff double

Brandt Snedeker reacts after sinking his putt on the 17th hole during the final round of the Tour Championship golf tournament, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in Atlanta. Snedeker went on to win the tournament and the FedEx Cup.
Associated Press
Page 20

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New world champion Philippe Gilbert of Belgium celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the men's road race of the World Championship Cycling over 166.9 miles in southern Netherlands, Sunday Sept. 23, 2012.
 Associated Press

Philippe Gilbert wins Road Cycling World Championships

MIKE CORDER
 Associated Press
 VALKENBURG, Netherlands (AP) — Philippe Gilbert of Belgium sprinted away on the closing Cauberg climb for victory in the men's road race Sunday at the Road Cycling World Championships, winning again on a hill he dominates like few other riders. Gilbert, who has twice won the Amstel Gold Race in the same hilly Dutch

province and finishing with the same climb, showed his experience by waiting patiently before powering away from a large group, punching the air as he crossed the line on his own. "I had time to enjoy those last 200 meters," he said. Gilbert lives nearby and knows the course well, winning back-to-back Amstel Gold Race titles in 2010 and 2011. "I'm a local boy so it is incredible," he said. Gilbert is a one-day classic specialist who eats up small, steep hills like those in Sunday's race. He said he knew his form was good after winning two stages in the Spanish Vuelta a few weeks ago, both on stages similar to Sunday's race. "I profited from a course that suited me really well," he said.

Sprint specialist Boasson Hagen said he was a little too far behind Gilbert when the Belgian made his move. "I'm really happy to get silver," the Norwegian said. "It was the best I could get today." The peloton kept up a strength-sapping pace throughout the 166-mile race, preventing any serious breakaways and setting up the thrilling finish. Gilbert crossed the line in 6 hours, 10 minutes, 41 seconds, to become the first Belgian world champion since Tom Boonen in 2005.

Boonen also looked in good shape to challenge on Sunday, but could not go with his teammate in the closing stages and ended 12th. Boasson Hagen was four seconds back and Valverde five seconds behind the Belgian. Defending champion Mark Cavendish of Britain dropped out midway through the grueling race after riding more than 60 miles at or near the front of the main peloton to help his Britain teammates. The sprinter said he knew before he started that the hilly course meant he could not repeat as champion. "When they counted down (at the start) there was one minute to go and I was like 'I've got one minute left as world champion,'" he said, sitting on the steps of his team bus. Cavendish's fellow Briton Bradley Wiggins, who had already won the Tour de France and Olympic time trial this year, also dropped out well before the finish. Thousands of Belgian fans had crossed the border just a few kilometers (miles) from the finishing line to cheer on their powerful national team and Gilbert said their support spurred him on. The roar as he crossed the line almost matched the cheers that greeted Dutchwoman Marianne Vos' victory Saturday in the women's road race. □

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NFL Capsules

Continued from page 17

Detroit scored 18 straight points, then Tennessee answered with 21 points before the Lions scored the final 14 of regulation. Detroit recovered an onside kick and got an assist from officials who did not review a possible turnover.

The Lions (1-2) lost their second straight when coach Jim Schwartz decided not to let Jason Hanson attempt to connect on a fifth field goal. Hill, in for injured Matthew Stafford, was stopped by defensive tackles Jurrell Casey and Sen'Derrick Marks on his sneak, and Tennessee escaped with its first win of the season.

CHIEFS 27, SAINTS 24 OT
NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Ryan Succop kicked six field goals, one to force overtime in the final seconds and another from 31 yards to lift Kansas City to its first win and keep New Orleans winless.

Succop's 43-yard field goal with 3 seconds left completed a methodical comeback by Kansas City (1-2) after the Saints (0-3) had cashed in on a pair of Chiefs turnovers to go ahead 24-6 in the third quarter.

Kansas City needed only one touchdown to win, a 91-yard run by Jamaal Charles, who finished with 233 yards rushing and 55 yards receiving.

The Chiefs also got a safety in the fourth quarter on Justin Houston's third sack of the game.

Drew Brees passed for 240 yards and three touchdowns, but missed all six of his passes through the fourth quarter and overtime.

VIKINGS 24, 49ERS 13
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Christian Ponder threw two touchdown passes to tight

end Kyle Rudolph and ran for another score to help the Vikings hand the 49ers their first defeat.

After a dominant start to their NFC North tour by decisively beating playoff teams Green Bay and Detroit, the 49ers (2-1) were beaten in every way by a team least likely to do so.

The Vikings (2-1) began the game boldly with a fourth-and-goal touchdown pass by Ponder to Rudolph. They finished strong by forcing three turnovers and two punts by the 49ers in the fourth quarter. Playing against his former team in the regular season for the first time, Randy Moss had three catches for 27 yards. Alex Smith's franchise-record interception-free streak ended at 249 straight passes.

F
ALCONS 27, CHARGERS 3
SAN DIEGO (AP) — Matt Ryan threw touchdown passes to three different receivers and safety Thomas DeCoud had two interceptions and a fumble recovery for unbeaten Atlanta. Ryan completed 30 of 40 passes for 275 yards, with his first interception of the season, and a passer rating of 107.8 for the Falcons (3-0), who improved to 6-0 all-time in San Diego. DeCoud's three takeaways, plus William Moore's fourth-quarter fumble recovery, extended the Falcons' NFL-high turnover differential to plus-10.

San Diego (2-1) was the third straight AFC West team to lose to Atlanta.

Ryan Mathews made his season debut for San Diego and looked good until fumbling inside the Falcons' 5-yard line on a hit by Sean Witherspoon, with DeCoud recovering.

TEXANS 31, BRONCOS 25
DENVER (AP) — Matt Schaub outplayed Peyton Manning, throwing four touchdown passes against

a confused Denver defense. Schaub finished 17 for 30 for 290 yards to help Houston move to 3-0 for the first time in franchise history. Six days after throwing three interceptions in the first quarter of a loss to Atlanta, Manning didn't throw any against the Texans. But just as happened last week, the Broncos fell behind by 20 and lost by six. Manning did get the ball with 20 seconds left this time but didn't get the Broncos close to the end zone. □



Oakland Raiders wide receiver Darius Heyward-Bey, left, is hit by Pittsburgh Steelers safety Ryan Mundy during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012.
Associated Press

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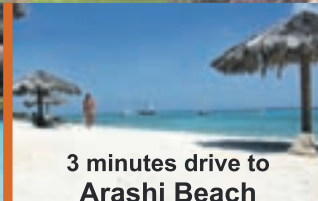
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Snedeker pulls away, wins Tour Championship and FedEx Cup

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Brandt Snedeker played the biggest round of his career for the biggest payoff in golf. Needing to win the Tour Championship on Sunday to beat out Rory McIlroy for the FedEx Cup, Snedeker came up with three big birdies on the back nine at East Lake to take all the drama out the final day that had been loaded with possibilities.

Snedeker hit his final tee shot into the grandstand left the 18th green and made bogey. By then, it didn't matter. So dominant was his performance that he was the only player from the last five groups who managed to break par, closing with a 2-under 68.

Along the way, he answered any questions about why Davis Love III made him a captain's pick for the Ryder Cup next week at Medinah.

Snedeker won by three shots over Justin Rose (71) in the Tour Championship, his second title of the year, and collected \$1.44 million.



Brandt Snedeker poses with the trophies after winning the Tour Championship and FedEx Cup in Atlanta, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012.
Associated Press

And he won the \$10 million bonus for capturing the FedEx Cup, which comes with a five-year exemption on the PGA Tour.

McIlroy and Tiger Woods, both of whom could have won the FedEx Cup with a victory Sunday, faded early and were never a factor.

Snedeker joins Woods (twice), Vijay Singh, Jim Furyk and Bill Haas as winners of the FedEx Cup in its six-year history.

McIlroy had won the last two playoff events and three of his last four tournaments dating to his eight-shot win in the PGA Cham-

pionship. He still is virtually a lock to be voted PGA Tour player of the year, but he had to settle for second place in the FedEx Cup.

"I knew what I needed to do," McIlroy said. "I needed to win. Brandt knew what he needed to do. And he played fantastic. He really

deserved it."

It was an emotional week in so many ways for Snedeker, already a high-strung personality. His father, Larry, flew in to watch final round at East Lake, only the second tournament he has attended since having a liver transplant last year.

Snedeker stopped by a hospital in Atlanta to visit Tucker Anderson, the son of his swing coach who was critically injured in a recent car accident and remains unable to communicate with words.

"I asked him if he thought I was going to beat Rory McIlroy, and he gave me a wink," Snedeker said.

He beat everybody at East Lake in a convincing fashion. After taking a double bogey on the par-3 sixth when he hit his tee shot into the water, Snedeker responded with a 40-foot birdie putt on the eighth, an 18-foot birdie putt on No. 13, and chipping in from short of the 17th green to end all doubt.

"I had complete confidence in what I was doing," Snedeker said.

Lewis beats out Thompson in Navistar LPGA Classic

JOHN ZENOR

AP Sports Writer

PRATTVILLE, Alabama (AP) — Stacy Lewis won the Navistar LPGA Classic on Sunday for her third LPGA Tour victory in five months, closing with a 3-under 69 to beat defending champion Lexi Thompson by two strokes.

Lewis parred the final two holes after a 12-foot birdie putt on No. 16 gave her the final cushion, and Thompson shot a 66 on The Senator course at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Capitol Hill complex.

"Lexi was within one when we got to the 16th green and that's the only time all day I knew what was going on," Lewis said. "Making birdie on that hole was huge. It gave me that cushion."

Lewis also won in Mobile in

late April, edging Thompson by a stroke in that tournament. The former Arkansas also won the Shoprite LPGA Classic in June.

The 17-year-old Thompson rebounded from a third-round 74. She won the event last year at 16 to become the youngest champion in LPGA Tour history, a mark broken last month by 15-year-old amateur Lydia Ko in the Canadian Women's Open.

Lewis finished at 18 under, one shot shy of the tournament record set by Australia's Katherine Hull in 2010. Lewis reclaimed the No. 2 spot in the world rankings and earned \$195,000 — but still stayed at a budget, \$75-a-night hotel in Prattville like usual.

Now, she and Yani Tseng are tied for the lead in victories this year.

"It's unbelievable," Lewis said. "Winning never gets easier. It might have looked easy out there but it was hard. Every shot was stressful and every hole on this course with one stroke you can make a double easily."

Her previous best at the Navistar was a tie for sixth last year, but she still likes competing in this state.

"I don't know what it is. I don't know if it's the Bermuda grass," Lewis said. "It's kind of what I grew up with in Texas."

I love playing these kind of courses where you have to hit good shots. If you don't hit good shots you're not rewarded. I like that."

Lewis had a three-putt for bogey on No. 2, but birdied No. 5 and made a 15-footer for another on the ninth hole.



Stacy Lewis displays the trophy after winning the Navistar LPGA Classic golf tournament on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail in Prattville, Ala.
Associated Press

"That was kind of the key putt for me," she said. Thompson made quite a run with birdies on holes 10-12. She set up fairly short putts on all three, making a 6-footer, a 1-footer and a 10-footer.

Thompson missed birdie putts on three of the final four holes, making one on No. 17 to close to within a stroke.

Then she saw Lewis move

to two strokes ahead when Thompson was on the final hole before enduring another near-miss with a chance to turn up the pressure on the leader.

"I just got some weird putts that broke differently than I thought," Thompson said. "Just total misreads. That happens. You get a few goofy putts but I was happy with the shots I hit into those holes."

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NASCAR: Hamlin takes New Hampshire for 5th win

JIMMY GOLEN

AP Sports Writer

LOUDON, New Hampshire (AP) — Denny Hamlin stepped out of his car, pointed into the air and took a mighty swing of an invisible baseball bat. Like Babe Ruth did before him (or so the legend goes), Hamlin had called his shot. The top winner in NASCAR's regular season earned his series-leading fifth victory of the year Sunday, backing up a tweet of "We will win" with a mistake-free and dominating run at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in the second event of the Chase for the Sprint Cup.

"You don't want to sound too cocky, but I knew what we were capable of," said Hamlin, who was 32nd in qualifying after his crew put the wrong pressure in his tires. "I know we made a couple of big mistakes, but I said we were fast enough to make it up and we did." It was the 100th career victory for team owner Joe Gibbs, who also won three Super Bowls as the coach of the Washington Redskins. And it came with a little teamwork, too, when Kyle Busch slowed down to help suck some debris off the front of Hamlin's car and propel him to victory.

"As fast as he was, he could have gone to the back of any car and pulled that off," said Jimmie Johnson, who finished second and took over the Chase lead. "I kind of thought he would be the guy to beat and he certainly was. We are second-best."

Johnson will head into Dover, Del., one of his top tracks, one point ahead of Chicago winner Brad Keselowski, who was sixth Sunday. Jeff Gordon, who was

the last man to qualify for the Chase, was third.

"We had a great race car," said Johnson, a five-time NASCAR season champion, "just not an amazing car like the No. 11 did here today."

Hamlin improved to third in the Chase, seven points behind Johnson, despite a tumultuous week that began with him running out of gas in Chicago and continued when his crew used race pressure instead of qualifying pressure in his tires on Friday. Hamlin also had problems with his crew here in July, when confusion during a tire change dropped him into traffic and left him scurrying to get back to the front of the field.

But he was confident enough on this track, where now he has five top five finishes in his last seven races, that he told a group of U.S. National Guardsmen during a publicity trip to New Hampshire earlier this month that would be back to share a few beers in victory lane. And despite finishing 16th in Chicago, Hamlin tweeted: "This is week 1 of 10. We will win next week." Hamlin had the fastest car in both practices, but the mistake in qualifying had him starting near the back of the field. Hamlin said he came to the track on Sunday with the goal of getting into the top 10 by the 100th lap.

He did better than that, taking the lead on the 94th lap and holding it for 193 laps in all.

"He was the class of the field from the time we unloaded," said Clint Bowyer, who finished fourth and is tied for fifth in the Chase. "I don't know what they figured out, but they figured it out in a big way."

Hamlin, who won in New Hampshire in 2007, led for 150 laps here in July before a miscommunication with crew chief Darian Grubb over whether to change two tires or four cost him a chance at another win. Then, in the Chase opener in Chicago last week, he finished 16th after his crew failed to fill up his tank on the final pit stop.

But Hamlin remained confident, in person and on Twitter, and Gibbs said that spilled over to a crew that was frustrated over its own mistakes.

"That meant a lot to his team. And I think the way you handle things like that, being the guy that's wheeling the car, I think is a big deal," Gibbs said, commending Grubb as well. "Those guys are going to remember the way they were treated and I think they would die for them both."

The biggest threat for Hamlin on Sunday was a plastic bag that was sucked onto the front of his car, blocking part of the air intake, with about one-third of the race to go. Busch, who had blown a cylinder and is not a part of the Chase, slowed down to allow his teammate to come up behind him.

The turbulence between the cars blew the debris off, and Hamlin was back on his way.

"No matter how fast your car is in practice, it's no guarantee for the race. And so I was a little nervous about that and how the conditions were going to change," Hamlin said. "But Darian obviously gave me a lightning fast car today. For me, my job was relatively easy: Just make sure that I didn't make any enemies on the way to the front."



NASCAR driver Denny Hamlin celebrates with his team after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in Loudon, N.H.

Associated Press

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WNBA Roundup

Lawson sets 3-point mark, lifts Sun over Dream



an Antonio Silver Stars center Jayne Appel, right, fights for control of the ball with Minnesota Lynx's Taj McWilliams-Franklin during the first quarter of their WNBA basketball game, Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in San Antonio. The Silver Stars won 99-84.

Associated Press

The Associated Press
UNCASVILLE, Conn. (AP) — Kara Lawson had 21 points, eight rebounds, and set the franchise record for 3-pointers in a season as the Connecticut Sun finished the regular season with a 92-72 win over the Atlanta Dream on Sunday. Lawson has made 74 3-pointers this season, topping Katie Douglas' mark of 73 set in 2006.

Tina Charles had 17 points and nine rebounds for the Sun (25-9). She also finished with a WNBA-best 345 rebounds and a 10.5 average.

Mistie Mims had nine points and five steals, and Kalana Greene scored 12 for Connecticut, Lindsay Harding scored 16

points, and Erika de Souza had 13 points and eight rebounds for Atlanta (19-15). Angel McCoughtry added 12 points and secured the league's scoring title with an average of 21.4.

FEVER 91, SHOCK 58
At Indianapolis, Erin Phillips matched a career high with 21 points, and Indiana beat Tulsa in the regular-season finale.

Tamika Catchings added 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Fever. Catchings posted her 82 career double-double, breaking a second-place tie in WNBA history with Yolanda Griffith. The Fever (22-12) matched their franchise record for wins in a season. Indiana had lost three straight before beating Washington

on Friday. Ivory Latta led the Shock (9-25) with 16 points. Scholanda Dorrell scored 14, Amber Holt had 10, and Glory Johnson added eight points and 11 rebounds for Tulsa.

The Fever won easily despite playing without three starters. Katie Douglas sat out with an illness, and guards Briann January and guard Shavonte Zellous missed the game due to concussion-like symptoms.

Jessica Davenport scored 18 points, and Karima Christmas added a season-high 10 for Indiana.

SILVER STARS 99, LYNX 84
At San Antonio, Danielle Adams scored 28 points, and San Antonio finished the regular season with a win over Minnesota.

Tangela Smith added 15 points, Danielle Robinson had 14, and Shameka Christon scored 13 for play-off-bound San Antonio (21-13).

Seimone Augustus had 18 points, Monica Wright 16 and Lindsay Whalen 14 for defending champion Minnesota (27-7). The Lynx, who have the league's best record, missed an opportunity to match the best regular-season record in WNBA history.

The Silver Stars set a season high for points in a game despite playing without Becky Hammon and Sophia Young, who rested before the playoffs.

MLS Capsules

Freddy Adu scores twice, Union beats Dynamo 3-1

Associated Press
CHESTER, Pa. (AP) — Freddy Adu scored twice and the Philadelphia Union beat the Houston Dynamo 3-1 on Sunday to snap an eight-game winless streak and avoid dropping out of playoff contention.

Adu opened the scoring in the 28th minute, and gave Philadelphia (8-14-6) a 2-1 lead on a penalty kick in the 50th. Josue Martinez added his first MLS goal, connecting in the 70th minute.

Boniek Garcia scored for Houston (12-8-10) in the 44th minute.

UNITED 1, CHIVAS USA 0
WASHINGTON (AP) — Branko Boskovic's first goal of the season lifted D.C. United over Chivas USA. Lionard Pajoy's cross set up Boskovic's header, and United (15-10-5) earned their third straight win and extended the club's record home unbeaten streak to 15 games.

United moved into a tie for third place in the Eastern Conference, but the New York Red Bulls still hold the first tiebreaker of total goals scored.

Chivas (7-15-7), last in the Western Conference, lost its

season-high fifth consecutive game.

RAPIDS 2, WHITECAPS 2, tie VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Jamie Smith, a second-half substitute, scored in the 86th minute to lift Colorado into a tie with Vancouver.

Smith put in a shot from just inside the 18-yard box after the ball bounced a couple of times off the feet of Vancouver's Alain Rochat and Young-Pyo Lee.

Colorado (9-18-3) avoided a 10th straight road loss that would have extended a club record.

The Whitecaps (10-12-8) remained winless in seven games but moved two points ahead of idle Dallas in the race for the fifth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Omar Cummings also scored for the Rapids. Rochat and second-half substitute Kenny Miller had goals for the Whitecaps, who overcame a 1-0, first-half deficit.

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Power, pollution and the internet

James Glanz

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SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Jeff Rothschild's machines at Facebook had a problem he knew he had to solve immediately. They were about to melt.

The company had been packing a 40-by-60-foot rental space here with racks of computer servers that were needed to store and process information from members' accounts. The electricity pouring into the computers was overheating Ethernet sockets and other crucial components.

Thinking fast, Rothschild, the company's engineer-

rows and rows of servers spread over hundreds of thousands of square feet, and all with industrial cooling systems.

They are a mere fraction of the tens of thousands of data centers that now exist to support the overall explosion of digital information. Stupendous amounts of data are set in motion each day as, with an innocuous click or tap, people download movies on iTunes, check credit card balances on Visa's website, send Yahoo email with files attached, buy products on Amazon, post on Twitter or read newspapers online.

A yearlong examination by The New York Times has re-

pull off the grid, The Times found.

To guard against a power failure, they further rely on banks of generators that emit diesel exhaust. The pollution from data centers has increasingly been cited by the authorities for violating clean air regulations, documents show. In Silicon Valley, many data centers appear on the state government's Toxic Air Contaminant Inventory, a roster of the area's top stationary diesel polluters.

Worldwide, the digital warehouses use about 30 billion watts of electricity, roughly equivalent to the output of 30 nuclear power plants, according to estimates industry experts compiled for The Times. Data centers in the United States account for one-quarter to one-third of that load, the estimates show.

"It's staggering for most people, even people in the industry, to understand the numbers, the sheer size of these systems," said Peter Gross, who helped design hundreds of data centers. "A single data center can take more power than a medium-size town."

Energy efficiency varies widely from company to company. But at the request of The Times, the consulting firm McKinsey & Co. analyzed energy use by data centers and found that, on average, they were using only 6 to 12 percent of the electricity powering their servers to perform computations. The rest was essentially used to keep servers idling and ready in case of a surge in activity that could slow or crash their operations.

A server is a sort of bulked-up desktop computer, minus a screen and keyboard, that contains chips



Rows of servers at a large data center, on March 12, 2012. Servers, at data centers around the world, perform the functions that constitute the cloud, consuming vast amounts of electricity, often wastefully.

(Richard Perry/The New York Times)

to process data. The study sampled some 20,000 servers in about 70 large data centers spanning the commercial gamut: drug companies, military contractors, banks, media companies and government agencies.

"This is an industry dirty secret, and no one wants to be the first to say mea culpa," said a senior industry executive who asked not to be identified to protect his company's reputation. □



A data center in Ashburn, Va., seen past a Dominion Virginia Power substation serving it, on Oct. 20, 2011. Worldwide, such centers use the rough equivalent of the output of 30 nuclear power plants. (Brendan Smialowski/The New York Times).

ing chief, took some employees on an expedition to buy every fan they could find — "We cleaned out all of the Walgreens in the area," he said — to blast cool air at the equipment and prevent the website from going down.

That was in early 2006, when Facebook had a quaint 10 million or so users and the one main server site. Today, the information generated by nearly 1 billion people requires outsize versions of these facilities, called data centers, with

vealed that this foundation of the information industry is sharply at odds with its image of sleek efficiency and environmental friendliness. Most data centers, by design, consume vast amounts of energy in an incongruously wasteful manner, interviews and documents show. Online companies typically run their facilities at maximum capacity around the clock, whatever the demand. As a result, data centers can waste 90 percent or more of the electricity they

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Apple's value could reach \$1T by 2015, analysts say

Nick Bilton
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If Apple continues on its current trajectory, something remarkable might happen on April 9, 2015, at around 11 a.m.

That is, statisticians and investors I've spoken with say, a conservative estimate of when Apple could become the first company ever to be valued at \$1 trillion. (Yes, you read that correctly: the number one, followed by 12 zeros.)

Other analysts are making even more aggressive estimates for the company's value, which, as of Friday, was \$656 billion. Those people put the trillion-dollar mark at less than a year from now: Aug. 16, 2013.

"It's hard to imagine Apple growing any faster than it has grown on both the release of the iPad and iPhone," said Michael E. Driscoll, chief executive of Metamarkets, a big data and predictive analytics company, and one of the statisticians betting Apple

will top \$1 trillion in 2015.

Estimating when, or if, Apple will become the first to be worth \$1 trillion is a bit of a parlor game, but we can all likely agree on one fact: Today, it is a juggernaut.

Not long ago, Apple was a boutique PC maker. Since then, it has rolled over almost every company in its path, first with music players, then with cellphones and, more recently, with laptops. Nokia, Sony, Research in Motion, Dell and Hewlett-Packard have all watched open-mouthed as Apple took markets they thought were secured. Each time, Apple's stock rose and their stock fell.

"They are certainly a different kind of company," said Walter Piecyk, a wireless research analyst at BTIG Research. But, he warned: "So was Nokia in the late '90s. No one thought they'd ever be challenged, and look at where they are today." Even with this growth, there is another possibility: that Apple never reaches \$1 trillion. "In a worst-case



Corey Rucker of Powder Springs, Ga. is silhouetted against the Lenox Mall Apple store icon, as he waits for the release of the iPhone 5, Friday, Sept. 21, 2012 in Atlanta.

Associated Press

scenario, Apple could befall the fate of Microsoft, which had a similarly dizzying peak in late 1999," Driscoll said. If \$1 trillion were the peak of Mount Everest, Microsoft would have been rising through the highest base camp in December 1999, when its market capitalization hit an all-time high of \$616.3 billion. Since then, the company has slid down the side of the mountain and is currently valued at a mere

\$261 billion.

Indeed, the flap over the poor-quality maps on the iPhone 5 has led some people to wonder if Apple has already jumped the shark. But remember how well it has weathered other challenges, like poorly functioning antennas and Siri's erratic behavior.

Apple is different from Microsoft. "When Microsoft peaked in 2000, it had 20 years running the PC

revolution. We're essentially only five years into the smartphone revolution," said Charles S. Wallman, a securities analyst who runs an investment group in Middleton, Wis. "Apple has 435 million customers based on the number of credit cards in iTunes. That's 6 percent of the world's population. It's not a stretch to say it can get to 10 or 12 percent of the world's population." Even if Apple didn't enter any new product categories, it could reach \$1 trillion by doubling its sales. That's hard for a big company, but in many respects, it is already happening. BTIG Research predicts Apple will sell 45 million iPhones in the December quarter alone. (During the same quarter last year, the company sold 37 million iPhones, doubling its revenue from a year earlier.) While it used to be a presence in the United States and a nobody overseas, Apple is now rolling out products like the iPhone 5 worldwide on the same day. □

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Decades of federal dollars helped fuel gas boom

PITTSBURGH (AP) -- It sounds like a free-market success story: a natural gas boom created by drilling company innovation, delivering a vast new source of cheap energy without the government subsidies that solar and wind power demand. "The free market has worked its magic," the Barnett Shale Energy Education Council, an industry group, claimed over the summer.

The boom happened "away from the greedy grasp of Washington," the American Enterprise Institute, a think tank, wrote in an essay this year.

If bureaucrats "had known this was going on," the essay went on, "surely Washington would have done something to slow it down, tax it more, or stop it altogether." But those who helped pioneer the technique known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, recall a different path.

Over three decades, from the shale fields of Texas and Wyoming to the Marcellus in the Northeast, the federal government contributed more than \$100 million in research to develop fracking, and billions more in tax breaks.

Now, those industry pioneers say their own effort shows that the government should back research into future sources of energy — for decades, if need be — to promote breakthroughs.

For all its success now, many people in the oil and gas industry itself once thought shale gas was a waste of time.

"There's no point in mincing words. Some people thought it was stupid," said

Dan Steward, a geologist who began working with the Texas natural gas firm Mitchell Energy in 1981. Steward estimated that in the early years, "probably 90 percent of the people" in the firm didn't believe shale gas would be profitable.

"Did I know it was going to work? Hell no," Steward added.

Shale is a rock formation thousands of feet underground. Among its largest U.S. deposits are the Marcellus Shale, under parts of Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and West Virginia, and the Barnett Shale is in north Texas.

Geologists knew shale contained gas, but for more than 100 years the industry focused on shallower reserves. With fracking, large volumes of water, along with sand and hazardous chemicals, are injected underground to break rock apart and free the gas.

In 1975, the Department

of Energy began funding research into fracking and horizontal drilling, where wells go down and then sideways for thousands of feet. But it took more than 20 years to perfect the process.

Alex Crawley, a former Department of Energy employee, recalled that some early tests were spectacular — in a bad way.

A test of fracking explosives in Morgantown, W.Va., "blew the pipe out of the well about 600 feet high" in the 1970s, Crawley said. Luckily, no one was killed. He added that a 1975 test well in Wyoming "produced a lot of water."

Steward recalled that Mitchell Energy didn't even cover the cost of fracking on shale tests until the 36th well was drilled.

"There's not a lot of companies that would stay with something this long. Most companies would have given up," he said, crediting founder George Mitch-



In this June 25, 2012 file photo, a crew works on a gas drilling rig at a well site for shale based natural gas in Zelienople, Pa. Associated Press

ell as a visionary who also got support from the government at key points.

"The government has to be involved, to some degree, with new technologies," Steward said.

The first federal energy sub-

sidies began in 1916, and until the 1970s they "focused almost exclusively on increasing the production of domestic oil and natural gas," according to the Congressional Budget Office.

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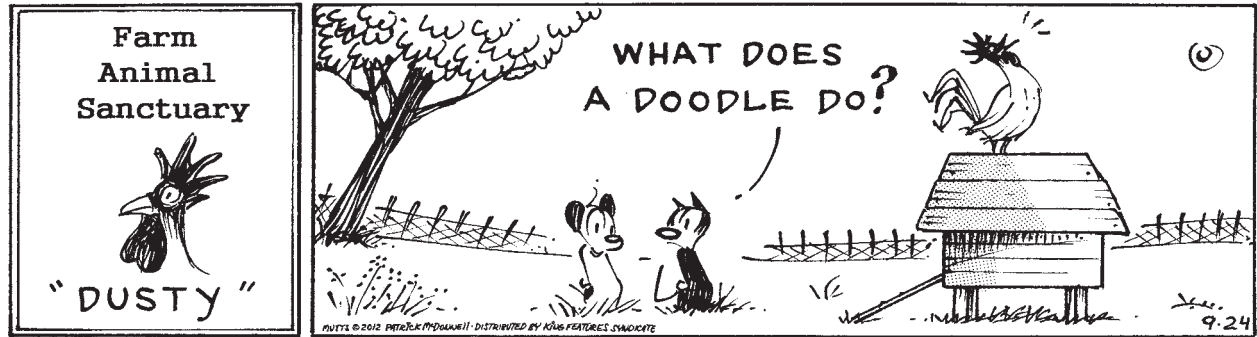
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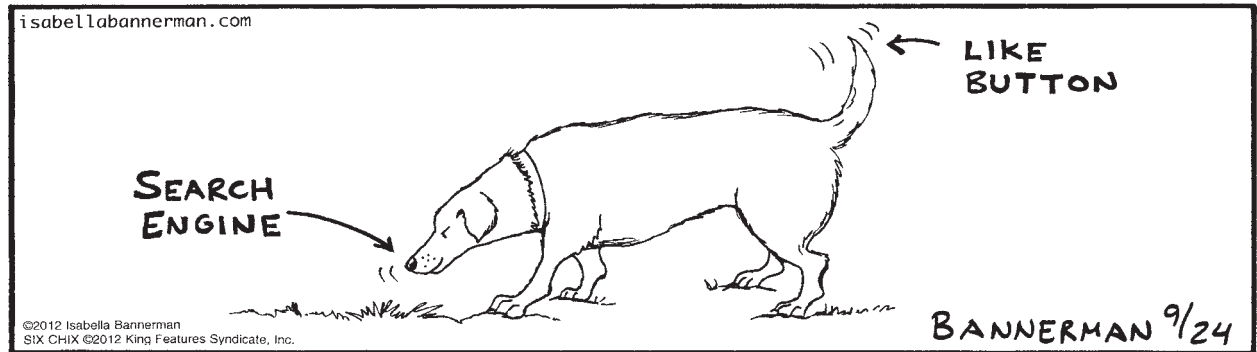
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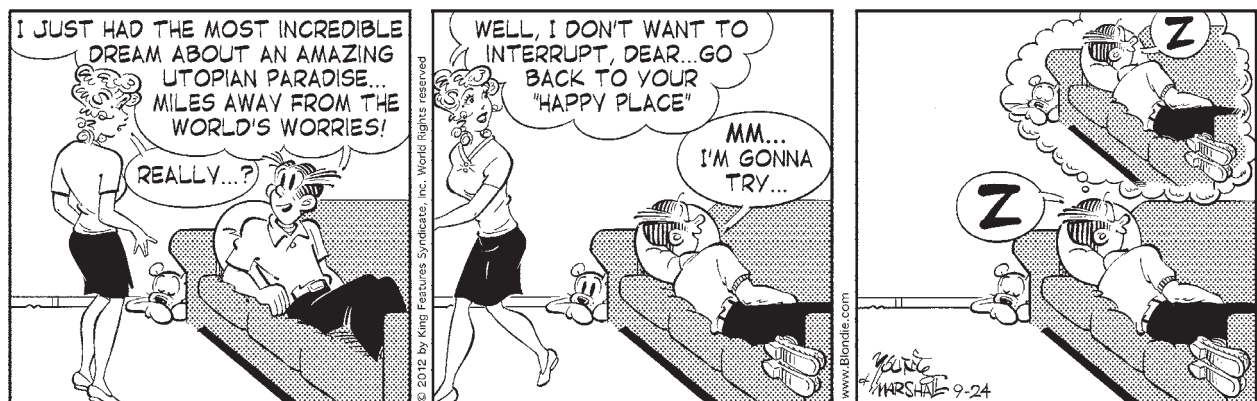
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



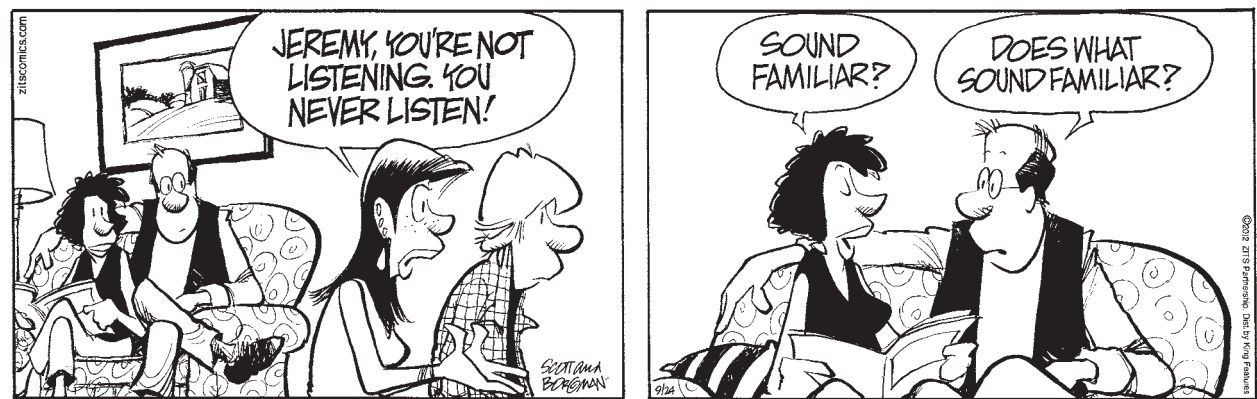
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

2			7		9		8
	6		1	9	7		
4			2	5			
	2	3			8	6	
5				9			4
	4	6			1	9	
			4	8			1
	5		3	7		8	
3		7	1				6

Difficulty Level ★

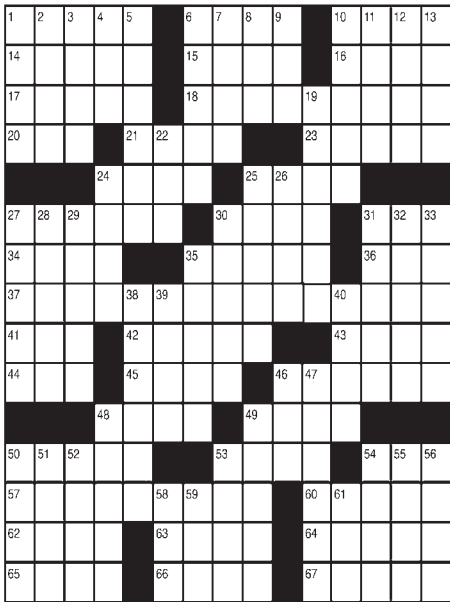
9/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

5	1	3	2	6	7	8	4	9
9	6	8	3	5	4	7	1	2
2	4	7	8	9	1	5	6	3
4	2	5	7	1	9	6	3	8
3	8	1	6	2	5	9	7	4
7	9	6	4	3	8	1	2	5
6	5	4	9	7	2	3	8	1
8	7	9	1	4	3	2	5	6
1	3	2	5	8	6	4	9	7

ACROSS

- Resigns, as one's job
- Thicke or Greenspan
- Late tennis pro Arthur
- Still whole
- City near Lake Tahoe
- Remain
- Sun-dried brick
- Exclude; shun
- Hither and _____; in all directions
- Poor box gift
- Punctured
- Hopping insect
- Aid in crime
- Actor Borgnine
- Read quickly
- Rotten
- Sound the horn
- Bawl out
- Tell a fib
- Philanthropy; spirit of giving
- Greek letter
- Decorate
- Capital of Norway
- _____ as a beet
- Classic board game
- Diminish
- Sharpen
- "For _____", real estate sign
- VP _____ Agnew
- Assistant
- Smack-____; on the nose
- Rubbing to make shiny
- Writer Jules _____
- Invites
- Cosmetics brand
- Gladden
- Derriere
- Strong cravings
- African nation



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/24/12

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

DUMB	MITER	ASHE
ASIA	IRONY	BLOW
NEST	NOMDE	PLUME
ARC	NUNS	RAGES
OBOES	FEZ	
ERNEST	LOSERS	
GODLY	PLEAS	EAR
GLUT	LOYAL	SILLO
SEC	DEREK	WANTS
STREAK	PRISSY	
OAF	BUILT	
COLON	DIRT	ARE
UNASSUMING	ITEM	
BENT	SIEGE	REAM
ASKS	ADDED	ESPY

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9/24/12

DOWN

- Wharf; dock
- Take apart
- Greek Orthodox artwork
- Walkway
- Evil spirit
- Short and bulky
- Cheese-topped tortilla chips
- Doing nothing
- Rudolph's famed feature
- Boy
- Five and six
- Watch's place
- Indications
- Jacuzzis
- Sit for an artist
- Actress Chase
- Shortly
- Boring event
- Poker term
- Lager
- Barn dinner
- "Got a Secret"
- Actor Wallach

Prison inmates raise rare frogs, butterflies

PHUONG LE
Associated Press
LITTLEROCK, Washington (AP) — Taylor Davis has dedicated himself to saving endangered Oregon spotted frogs. He spends hours each day tending to eggs or doting on tadpoles, feeding, nurturing and meticulously recording their development. He's in no hurry.

"We have nothing but time here," said the 28-year-old Davis. He added, "It's perfect for a prison setting." Washington state inmates such as Davis have been working as ecological research assistants, partnered in recent years with scientists doing conservation projects. Their efforts include breeding threatened butterflies and growing native flowers and prairie grasses.

The programs are part of a push by the state Department of Corrections that has gained momentum recently, with one project earning an expansion grant from a federal agency this year and prison officials from across the country visiting Washington state penitentiaries in recent weeks to inspect the various projects.

At Cedar Creek Corrections Center, a medium-security prison in western Washington, Davis and another inmate, Mathew Henson, have been nurturing a batch of small black-spotted frogs that will be ready for release into the wild Monday.

It's an ironic twist. Davis is serving 10 years for stealing cars. And Henson is doing more than five years for robbery and assault. But both have been granted a high level of confidence.

"It's quite a leap of faith to let someone handle endangered frog eggs," said Dan Pacholke, prisons director for the state Department of Corrections. Prison officials say it's a logical pairing. They consider inmates ideal candidates for conservation projects since they can work in a controlled environment

and have a lot of time to dedicate. The research also allows inmates to contribute a broader social good, officials say.

"It makes sense that we engage in activity that make prisons safe to run, reduce negative inmate behavior and contribute to the community," Pacholke said. Pacholke co-directs the Sustainability in Prisons Project, a partnership with The Evergreen State College that involves regional zoos, nonprofit groups, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife and other state and federal agencies.

"We have inmates at the table who are making substantive contributions to the science," said Carri LeRoy, a faculty member at Evergreen who co-directs the project. Their efforts have gained



In this photo provided by the Sustainability in Prisons Project and The Evergreen State College, Mathew Henson, right, shows visitors an Oregon spotted frog during a tour of the Sustainability in Prisons Project at Cedar Creek Corrections Center in Littlerock, Wash., Thursday, Sept. 12, 2012.

Associated Press

Corrections officials from states as far-flung as Maryland, Ohio and Utah visited prisons across Washington state this month to see some of the programs in action. In one project, at the Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women in

in their first season, as more than 700 Taylor's checkerspots were released onto south Puget Sound prairies this year. The inmates also raised more than 3,600 caterpillars for release next year, about 50 percent more than expected. □



In this photo provided by the Sustainability in Prisons Project and The Evergreen State College, Mathew Henson, shows visitors an Oregon spotted frog during a tour of the Sustainability in Prisons Project at Cedar Creek Corrections Center in Littlerock, Wash., Thursday, Sept. 12, 2012. Henson and other inmates work as ecological research assistants, partnered in recent years with scientists doing conservation projects.

Associated Press

the attention of the National Science Foundation, an independent federal agency, which gave the sustainability project money to explore spreading their work to prisons across the U.S.

Belfair, inmates last year began helping state biologists, the Oregon Zoo and others breed an orange and black flecked butterfly known as the Taylor's checkerspot. The offenders had success

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Spaceport America is built, but who will come?

JERI CLAUSING

Associated Press

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES,

New Mexico (AP) — New Mexico Tourism Secretary Monique Jacobson says it will be New Mexico's Sydney Opera House. Virgin Galactic Chairman Richard Branson has hinted it will host the first of his new brand of lifestyle hotels. And the eclectic hot springs town of Truth or Consequences has been anxiously awaiting all the economic development the nearly quarter-of-a-billion-dollar project is supposed to bring to this largely rural part of southern New Mexico.

But as phase one of Spaceport America, the world's first commercial port built specifically for sending tourists and payloads into space, is nearing completion, the only new hotel project that has been finalized is a Holiday Inn Express here in Truth or Consequences, about 25 miles away. And three key companies with millions of dollars in payroll have passed on developing operations in the state.



This Oct. 17, 2011 file photo shows British billionaire Sir Richard Branson drinking champagne after repelling down the side of the new Spaceport America hangar in Upham, N.M. As the nation's first launch station to send people to space nears completion, some see signs New Mexico may have reached for the stars — and got stuck in the bad economy.

Associated Press

The lagging development, along with competition from heavy hitters like Florida and Texas, is raising new questions about the viability of the \$209 billion taxpayer-funded project — as well as the rush by so many states to grab a piece of the commercial spaceport pie. To date, nine spaceports are planned around the United States, mostly at existing airports, and another 10 have

been proposed, according to a recent report from the New Mexico Spaceport Authority.

"Right now, the industry is not there to support it," Alex Ignatiev, a University of Houston physics professor and adviser to space companies, said of the list of planned and proposed spaceports across America. Andrew Nelson, COO of XCOR Aerospace,

disagrees, saying "in the next couple to three years, there's going to be a demonstrative reduction in the cost to launch stuff ... so we are going to have a lot more people coming out of the woodwork."

Currently, the Spaceport can count on two rocket companies that send vertical payloads into space and Virgin Galactic, the Branson space tourism venture that says it has signed up more than 500 wealthy adventurers for \$200,000-per-person spaceflights. Other leaders in the race to commercialize the business and send tourists into space have been passing on New Mexico. For example, XCOR Aerospace, which manufactures reusable rocket engines for major aerospace contractors and is

designing a two-person space vehicle called the Lynx, has twice passed over New Mexico in favor of Texas and Florida. Most recently, it announced plans to locate its new Commercial Space Research and Development Center Headquarters in Midland, Texas.

Another company, RocketCrafters, Inc., passed over New Mexico for Titusville, Florida. And the space tourism company of SpaceX, is looking at basing a plant with \$50 million in annual salaries in Brownsville, Texas.

Locally, officials blame the lack of new businesses on the legislature's refusal to pass laws that would exempt spacecraft suppliers from liability for passengers should the spacecraft crash or blow up. When New Mexico was developing Spaceport in partnership with Virgin Galactic, it passed a law to exempt the carrier through 2018, but not parts suppliers. Colorado, Florida, Texas and Virginia have adopted permanent liability exemption laws for both carriers and suppliers. The laws, called informed consent, are much like those that exempt ski areas from lawsuits by skiers, who waive their rights for claims when they buy a ski pass. Spaceport officials emphasize the carriers and suppliers would not be exempt from damage on the ground, or in cases of gross negligence. "The issue is informed consent legislation," said Truth or Consequences Mayor John Mulcahy. "We need to get that passed." Companies make no secret of the fact that the liability laws have played a role in their decision to go elsewhere.



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Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong getting treatment

NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP Entertainment Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong is headed to treatment for substance abuse.

Sunday's announcement by the band's representative comes after the 40-year-old frontman had a meltdown on-stage at the iHeartRadio Music Festival in Las Vegas on Friday. As Green Day was wrapping up its performance during the all-star, two-day concert, Armstrong profanely complained that the band's time was being cut short.

"One minute left, one minute (expletive) left. You're gonna give me (expletive) one minute? ... I'm not (expletive) Justin Bieber, you (expletives)!" he yelled (although Bieber was not part of the night's festi-

ties).

Armstrong smashed his guitar before leaving the stage.

In a statement to The Associated Press, Green Day apologized "to those they offended at the iHeartRadio Festival" and said its set was not cut short by Clear Channel, the host of the two-day festival.

The Grammy winning band also is canceling some of its promotional appearances. It is due to release the album "Uno" on Tuesday, the follow-up to "21st Century Breakdown," released three years ago. "Uno" is the first in a trilogy of albums; the second is to be out in November, and the last in January. The band is due to kick off a nationwide tour Nov. 26 in Seattle.

Armstrong was hospital-

ized in early September in Bologna, Italy, for an undisclosed ailment, but recovered well enough to perform at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sept. 6.

Since then, the band has made a series of performances, including a performance on the TV show "Good Morning America" and a New York City concert for the launch of Nokia Music on Sept. 15. No interviews of the band were allowed that evening, but the band chatted with fans and Nokia and AT&T executives before performing for about two hours.

It's unclear what Armstrong is receiving treatment for; in 2003, he was arrested for driving under the influence, and has acknowledged in the past taking various drugs but has said he now es-



Billie Joe Armstrong of Green Day performs at the iHeart Radio Music Festival on Friday, Sept., 21, 2012 at the MGM Grand Arena in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

chews them.

Green Day is one of rock's top acts and had huge success with its 2004 politically charged album "American Idiot," which went on to become a

Broadway musical. Armstrong performed for a stretch in the musical.

Most recently, he was a mentor on the NBC talent competition "The Voice."

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a

perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort



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In this Aug. 14, 2012 file photo, Bruce Springsteen performs at Fenway Park in Boston. Springsteen celebrated his 63rd birthday onstage until nearly 2 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, joined at the end by his hearty mom, at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

Springsteen celebrates birthday with mom onstage

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — Bruce Springsteen celebrated his 63rd birthday onstage until nearly 2 a.m. Sunday, joined at the end by his hearty mom. Adele Springsteen danced and sang background to "Twist and Shout," walking offstage with her son and his band around 2 a.m. Her only concession to age was a pair of hastily made ear-plugs. She watched as her son cut a giant birthday cake in the shape of a guitar, passing out pieces to some audience members. His show in the open-air MetLife Stadium was delayed three hours Saturday by authorities because of a downpour and worries

about lightning. Thousands of fans clustered on indoor ramps waiting for the rain to stop.

When it did, Springsteen and his E Street Band took the stage at 10:30 p.m. to the strains of Wilson Pickett's "In the Midnight Hour," a song they performed when the clock hit that mark. They also covered Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Who'll Stop the Rain," and it worked.

"Thank you for your patience," Springsteen told the audience. He said it had been a long time since he had performed on his birthday.

It was the third of a three-night stand at his home state arena.

State Dept blasts CNN report on Stevens' diary

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — CNN reported on the personal journal of slain American ambassador Christopher Stevens over objections from his family, a State Department spokesman said Saturday.

The news channel, in a story posted online Saturday, said that it found a journal belonging to Stevens four days after he died in a Sept. 11 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Three other Americans also were killed. CNN broke a pledge to the late ambassador's family that it wouldn't report on the diary, said State Department spokesman Philippe Reines, a senior adviser to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

In a blistering statement, Reines called CNN's actions "indefensible."

The channel said in the story online that it took "newsworthy tips" from Stevens' diary and confirmed them with other sources.

'Watch,' 'House,' 'Curve' land in photo finish



This film image released by Open Road Films shows Michael Pena, left, and Jake Gyllenhaal in a scene from "End of Watch."

Associated Press

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hollywood is in photo-finish mode with three new movies bunched up tightly for the No. 1 spot during a sleepy weekend at the box office.

Studio estimates Sunday put two movies in a tie for first-place with \$13 million each: Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Pena's police story "End of Watch" and Jennifer Lawrence's horror flick "House at the End of the Street."

And right in the same ballpark was Clint Eastwood and Amy Adams' baseball tale "Trouble with the Curve," which opened with \$12.7 million.

Actual rankings will be determined Monday as studios release final numbers for the weekend.

No matter which movie comes out on top, it was another slow weekend for Hollywood, whose business has been sluggish throughout late summer. Revenues were down for the fourth-straight weekend, with all three of the top new movies opening to modest crowds. "This was a clash of the non-titans," said Paul Dergarabedian, analyst for box-office tracker Hollywood.com. "When three films are duking it out for the top spot

with only around \$13 million, that doesn't represent a very strong period at the box office."

Overall domestic revenues totaled \$88 million, down 25 percent from the same weekend last year, when a 3-D re-release of "The Lion King" led with \$21.9 million, according to Hollywood.com.

The weekend's other new wide release, Lionsgate's science-fiction action tale "Dredd," opened well down in the rankings at No. 6 with \$6.3 million. The movie features "Star Trek" co-star Karl Urban as a law enforcer and executioner in a crime-laden city of the future.

Open Road Films' "End of Watch" stars Gyllenhaal and Pena as partners patrolling the mean streets of LA. Relativity Media's "House at the End of the Street" casts "The Hunger Games" star Lawrence as a youth who moves with her mom next door to a house where bloody misdeeds took place years earlier. "Trouble with the Curve," released by Warner Bros., stars Eastwood as an aging baseball scout whose daughter (Adams) accompanies him on his latest road trip.

Studios determine weekend estimates by counting

Friday and Saturday ticket sales then projecting Sunday revenues based on how similar movies have played out in the past. On rare occasions when the top movies are this close, the rankings sometimes change when Monday's final numbers are released. That has led to grouching among competitors that some studios might be inflating their Sunday estimates to gain No. 1 bragging rights, even if only for a day.

"I took the high road myself and put down the \$12.7 million we reported," said Dan Fellman, head of distribution at Warner Bros., where Eastwood has been based for decades. "I've got a major actor with a solid group of people in this movie, and I don't want to eat crow on Monday."

Other studios were tracking "End of Watch" and "House at the End of the Street" at a bit less than \$13 million for the weekend, and some had "Trouble with the Curve" at No. 1 by a fraction.

"It's unbelievably close. I honestly don't remember ever seeing it this close, but we're happy that we're in the race," said Kyle Davies, head of distribution for Relativity. "We think our estimate is on target."

The son also sets



Maureen Dowd
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WASHINGTON – Sometimes in the course of human events, we must ask, as Hemingway did in "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," what is that @leopard doing at ^this altitude? As a candidate, Mitt Romney is awkward, off-putting and hollow, so bad that if he were a Bain company, he would shut himself down. The billion-dollar Republican campaign should be sweeping the floor with the deflated President Barack Obama after four years of 8 percent-plus unemployment. Yet it is curdling. The little donations have dried up; how long before the big money follows?

We must also ask the Hemingway question about Stuart Stevens, the Hemingway manqué running Mitt's campaign. "The Square and the Flair," The New Republic dubbed the synthetic candidate and his sentient adviser, who started as Eudora Welty's paperboy and lived by the Oscar Wilde maxim: "Nothing succeeds like excess."

The 58-year-old Mississippi native has written a sexy political novel, scripts for "Northern Exposure" and Evelyn Waugh-style travel odysseys. He was a consultant for George Clooney on "The Ides of March" and has even written an HBO docudrama about W.'s warrantless domestic spying program, centering on The Times' decision to publish the article by James Risen and Eric Lichtblau that exposed it.

It's hard to believe that the self-styled Renaissance Man who wrote this in "Feeding Frenzy" – "But next there was the Fricassee De Homard Breton Au Jus De Viande aux chicons confits au gingembre et citron vert. It was fabulous, contradictory but not conflicting, every taste a surprise" – works for the Tin Man, whose favorite meal is chocolate milk and peanut butter.

Stevens skied 100 miles to the North Pole and biked 450 miles through the Pyrenees. He wrote a piece for Outside magazine about taking steroids for a French bike race. After Oxford and UCLA film school, he fell into politics as an escapade, and he likes to maintain that larkly affect.

In 2000, when he worked for W., as New Hampshire Republicans headed to the polls on Primary Day to deliver a near-fatal 19-point drubbing of his candidate, Stevens headed out from his hotel carrying skis. Asked by a reporter about his insouciance, he replied that there was nothing he could do at that point.

But his "devil-may-care routine," as The New Republic calls it, may be wearing thin. This isn't merely a plotline for some future script. This is the real deal.

You get the sense that the strategist considers himself cooler than the candidate, that he's too hip to walk through fire for Mitt and that he lacks confidence that Romney could be a better campaigner. He treats Mitt like a cardboard cutout, never asking him to risk anything or pushing him to be big, bold and inspirational.

Ann Romney is clearly feeling the strain. On Radio Iowa, she ordered whining Republicans: "Stop it. This is hard. You want to try it? Get in the ring." She said Americans should realize "how lucky" they were to have Mitt. She sounded entitled, even as her husband dismissed half the country as entitlement junkies.

An Obama adviser calls the Romney campaign "a study in mismanagement," while the conservative columnist Peggy Noonan deems it "a rolling calamity." Yet after Tampa, Romney gave promised bonuses totaling \$192,440 to at least nine senior campaign staff members working under Stevens. Even if voters are inclined to fire the incumbent, they need reassurance about what the replacement would do. Romney has failed to give details where needed, and when he does give details, they contradict his own past stands.

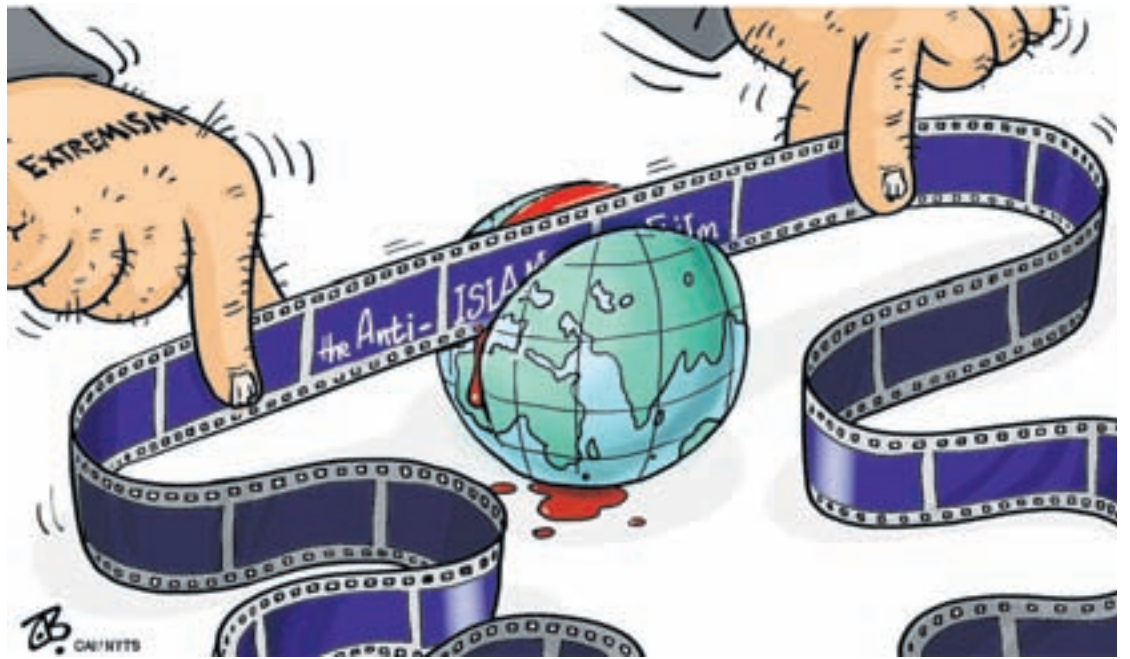
He finally released a tax return from 2011, showing he paid a higher tax rate than required. The press immediately unearthed a Romney quote from July: "If I had paid more than are legally due, I don't think I'd be qualified to become president." Case closed.

Aside from Mitt's penchant for being a pinata, the campaign is a moveable feast of missteps: spending money at the wrong time; putting on biographical ads too late; letting the Obama camp define Romney before he defined himself; staging a disastrous foreign trip; fumbling the convention; and somehow neglecting to tell the candidate that there is no longer any such thing as off the record, if there ever was.

Some Republican strategists, watching it slip away, privately complain that Stevens is a poseur and political atheist who is so busy being a dilettante that he forgets the need to actually have faith. Was the Hollywood dabbler so swept up in the idea of Clint Eastwood's benediction that he didn't vet the 82-year-old actor's script, or wonder about that empty chair?

He doesn't realize that having Romney stand for nothing and everything is not as good as having Romney say: Follow me, we're going to go over here.

"If you don't believe your guy can lead you to a better place," said one GOP strategist, "it's hard to get anybody else to believe it." Romney said he liked to fire people. But his downfall may be that he does not. □



Free speech in the age of YouTube

Somini Sengupta

© 2012 New York Times SAN FRANCISCO – Companies are usually accountable to no one but their shareholders.

Internet companies are a different breed. Because they traffic in speech – rather than, say, corn syrup or warplanes – they make decisions every day about what kind of expression is allowed where. And occasionally they come under pressure to explain how they decide, on whose laws and values they rely, and how they distinguish between toxic speech that must be taken down and that which can remain.

The storm over an incendiary anti-Islamic video posted on YouTube has stirred fresh debate on these issues. Google, which owns YouTube, restricted access to the video in Egypt and Libya, after the killing of a U.S. ambassador and three other Americans. Then, it pulled the plug on the video in five other countries, where the content violated local laws.

Some countries blocked YouTube altogether, though that didn't stop the bloodshed: In Pakistan, where elections are to be scheduled soon, riots on Friday left a death toll of 19.

The company pointed to its internal edicts to explain why it rebuffed calls to take down the video altogether. It did not meet its definition of hate speech, YouTube said, and so it allowed the video to stay up on the Web. It didn't say very much more.

That explanation revealed not only the challenges that confront companies like Google but also how opaque they can be in explaining their verdicts on what can be said on their platforms. Google, Facebook and Twitter receive hundreds of thousands of complaints about content every week.

"We are just awakening to the need for some scrutiny or oversight or public attention to the decisions of the most powerful private speech controllers," said Tim Wu, a Columbia University law professor who briefly advised the Obama administration on consumer protection regulations online.

Google was right, Wu believes, to

selectively restrict access to the crude anti-Islam video in light of the extraordinary violence that broke out.

But he said the public deserved to know more about how private firms made those decisions in the first place, every day, all over the world. After all, he added, they are setting case law, just as courts do in sovereign countries.

Wu offered some unsolicited advice: Why not set up an oversight board of regional experts or serious YouTube users from around the world to make the especially tough decisions?

Google has not responded to his proposal, which he outlined in a blog post for The New Republic.

Certainly, the scale and nature of YouTube makes this a daunting task.

Any analysis requires combing through more than 1 billion videos and overlaying that against the laws and mores of different countries.

It's unclear whether expert panels would allow for unpopular minority opinion anyway. The company said in a statement on Friday that, like newspapers, it, too, made "nuanced" judgments about content: "It's why user-generated content sites typically have clear community guidelines and remove videos or posts that break them."

Privately, companies have been wrestling with these issues for some time.

The Global Network Initiative, a conclave of executives, academics and advocates, has issued voluntary guidelines on how to respond to government requests to filter content.

And the Anti-Defamation League has convened executives, government officials and advocates to discuss how to define hate speech and what to do about it. Hate speech is a pliable notion, and there will be arguments about whether it covers speech that is likely to lead to violence (think Rwanda) or demeans a group (think Holocaust denial), just as there will be calls for absolute free expression.

Behind closed doors, Internet companies routinely make tough decisions on content.

Apple and Google earlier this year yanked a mobile application produced by Hezbollah. In 2010, YouTube removed links to speeches by a U.S.-born cleric, Anwar al-Awlaki, in which he advocated terrorist violence; at the time, the company said it proscribed posts that could incite "violent acts."

On rare occasions, Google has taken steps to educate users about offensive content. For instance, the top results that come up when you search for the word "Jew" include a link to a virulently anti-Jewish site, followed by a promoted link from Google, boxed in pink. It links to a page that lays out Google's rationale: The company says it does not censor search results, despite complaints.

Susan Benesch, who studies hate speech that incites violence, said it would be wise to have many more explanations like this, not least to promote debate. "They certainly don't have to," said Benesch, director of the Dangerous Speech Project at the World Policy Institute. "But we can encourage them to because of the enormous power they have."

The companies point out that they obey the laws of every country in which they do business. And their employees and algorithms vet content that may violate their user guidelines, which are public.

YouTube prohibits hate speech, which it defines as that which "attacks or demeans a group" based on its race, religion and so on; Facebook's hate speech ban likewise covers "content that attacks people" on the basis of identity. Google and Facebook prohibit hate speech; Twitter does not explicitly ban it.

And anyway, legal scholars say, it is exceedingly difficult to devise a universal definition of hate speech.

Shibley Telhami, a political scientist at the University of Maryland, said he hoped the violence over the video would encourage a nuanced conversation about how to safeguard free expression with other values, like public safety. "It's really about at what point does speech becomes action; that's a boundary that becomes difficult to draw, and it's a slippery slope," Telhami said. □

'Homeland' and 'Modern Family' win big at Emmys

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

"Homeland," which puts the battle against terrorism on American soil, was honored as best drama series at Sunday's Emmys and earned trophies for stars Claire Danes and Damian Lewis. "Modern Family" was named best comedy. "We feel so lucky, lucky not only to have jobs in these challenging times, but to have jobs that we love with people we love," said Steven Levitan, co-creator of "Modern Family."

The drama "Homeland" stopped "Mad Men" in its tracks, denying the show a record-setting fifth trophy and kept Bryan Cranston from his fourth consecutive best drama award for "Breaking Bad" and "Mad Men" star Jon Hamm an also-ran once more.

The Emmys refused to play it predictably Sunday, with Jon Cryer of "Two and a Half Men" earning a best actor award and Jimmy Kimmel proving a game but uneven host.

"I'm one of those pesky Brits, I apologize," said Lewis, who plays an American in the espionage thriller. "I don't really believe in judging art, but I thought I'd show up just in case."

Danes, eye-catching in a bright yellow dress that gracefully draped the pregnant actress, was effusive.

"My husband, my love, my life, my baby daddy, this doesn't mean anything without you," she said to her spouse, actor Hugh Dancy.

Backstage, Danes said she particularly appreciated one fan: President Barack Obama has said he's a fan of "Homeland," about a Marine and former POW who's suspected of working for al Qaeda.

"No pressure," the actress said. "It's way cool that he is a fan. It speaks to the relevancy of the show and it's hugely validating."

The acting trophies, along with a best writing award for the show, gave "Home-



Alex Gansa, center, and the cast and crew of "Homeland" accept the award for outstanding drama series at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in Los Angeles.



Kat Dennings, left, and Jon Cryer, center, present the award for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy series to Julie Bowen for "Modern Family" at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in Los Angeles.

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land" momentum as it headed toward the best drama award.

Aaron Paul won best supporting drama actor for "Breaking Bad" and "Homeland" won the best writing award.

"Thank you so much for not killing me off," Paul said of his drug-dealing character's lucky survival. "Thank you Hollywood for allowing me to be part of your group," he added, noting he'd moved from Idaho to pursue his dreams.

On the comedy side, Emmy voters decided that "Two and a Half Men" with Jon Cryer and without Charlie Sheen is really good, as Cryer claimed the best comedy actor trophy.

"Don't panic, people. Something has clearly

gone terribly wrong. I'm stunned," said Cryer, who on the red carpet before the show has expressed confidence he wouldn't win. Among others, he beat out two-time winner Jim Parsons of "The Big Bang Theory."

Ashton Kutcher, who joined the show after Sheen was fired, wasn't nominated.

Julia Louis-Dreyfus was honored as best actress in comedy for "Veep."

Andy Griffith topped a segment honoring industry members who died during the previous year. Ron Howard, who played Griffith's son Opie in "The Andy Griffith Show," said he belonged "in the pantheon."

"Dang if he didn't make it look powerful easy while he

Associated Press

was going about it," Howard said.

Phyllis Diller, Davy Jones of "The Monkees," Sheman Hemsley and Richard Dawson were among the others honored in a montage.

Earlier in the show, Kimmel dared to mock the in memoriam package that typically airs at awards shows with one showing him in various guises. Josh Groban sang a mournful "You're Beautiful" in background.

"I will be missed," Kimmel said.

Perhaps Kimmel's most notable achievement was a prank: Inviting "30 Rock"

turn on ABC right now to see it. It worked, with the message going viral and maybe even boosting the Emmy audience for a few moments.

Maggie Smith was honored as best supporting drama actress for her tart-tongued dowager in "Downton Abbey," unhurt by the program's move from the mini-series category.

"Homeland," the domestic espionage thriller, won the best drama writing award.

"Modern Family" made it look easy as the comedy won the best directing trophy and Eric Stonestreet and Julie Bowen claimed supporting actor awards.

There was at least a minor backlash online as some questioned whether the show had a deserving season.

Stonestreet was funny and touching as he accepted for his role as half of a devoted gay couple.

"I wouldn't be standing here without Jesse Tyler Ferguson, there is no Cam without Mitch," he said, saluting his co-star. "We get the awesome opportunity to play these two characters on TV and show America and the world what a loving couple we can be just like everybody else."

Then he turned saucy: "I



Ricky Gervais, left, presents the award for Outstanding Variety Series to Jon Stewart for "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2012, in Los Angeles.

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star Tracy Morgan to lie on the stage, then asking viewers to post on Facebook and tweet that Morgan "just passed out" and

never knew I'd be on TV as a gay man, but I love the pictures of hairy chests you guys are sending me, it's really amazing.□